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Issue 219

December 5th 2014

Frozen stars help light up Crewkerne

STEVE MONK IMAGES

See pages 6 & 7

Your complete leisure guide to the weekend in South Somerset

Government plans for £2billion works on A303 met with widespread approval

See page 3

Camping out this Christmas to raise climate change awareness

See page 7

DAVID LAWS MP for Yeovil Constituency Advice Centres

Saturday 6th December
at the Forefront Community Centre, 42 Fore St,
CHARD TA20 1QA *from 9am*

Friday 12th December
at the Constituency Office, 5 Church Street,
YEOVIL BA20 1HB *from 2pm*

Saturday 13th December
Greenfylde School (via green gate off Wharf Lane C/P)
ILMINSTER TA19 0BA *9.00 - 10am*
Crewkerne Community Office, Town Hall, Market Square
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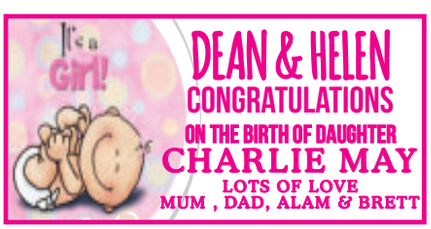

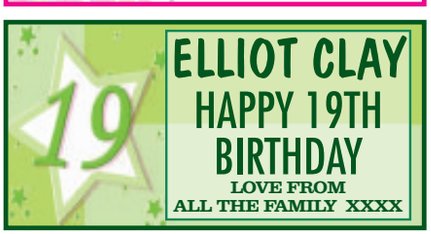

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ALL FAMILY ANNOUNCEMENTS MUST BE IN 12 NOON ON WEDNESDAY FOR THE FRIDAY PUBLICATION

County council marks 125 years

NOW AND THEN: Pictured above, Somerset county councilors pictured to mark the authority's 125th anniversary year and, below, councillors pictured in 1974

SOMERSET county councillors have marked a moment in the local authority's history by standing for a commemorative photograph for its 125th birthday year.

It is 125 years since the county council was founded, with a first meeting chaired by Sir Richard Horner Paget at Highbridge Town Hall in 1889. Before its foundation, unelected Justices of the Peace had been responsible for providing the county's justice and administration. However, the county council's remit swiftly developed, with Somerset's roads making the greatest demand on resources as the council acted to modernise routes used by pony and trap for the age of the motor car.

Today, Somerset County Council's highways team maintains 6,640km of Somerset roads – the equivalent straight line distance from County Hall to the centre of Alaska. In 2013-14 the team succeeded in repairing a staggering 25,000 safety defects and took 25,000 enquiries from customers.

Details from the 1881 Census show that around 510,000 people lived in Somerset at that time, in an area including Bath and North Somerset and reaching as far as the borders of Bristol. This is compared to the almost 530,000 people recorded in the 2011 Census living in the five Somerset districts we know and love in 2014.

In 1881 the county was also divided into Poor Law Unions and registration districts rather than wards, with an average of five people per household – twice as many as now.

The current chairman of Somerset County Council, David Fothergill, said: "For 125 years the county council has been supporting the people of Somerset in all aspects of their lives, from their roads, rights of way and school services, to social care and libraries.

"The contribution made by so many officers and members over this time has been enormous, and despite current challenges I am confident about the supportive strength of the council in the future."

Contact us . . .

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News of £2billion investment for road improvements welcomed in Somerset

'THIS IS THE RESULT OF LONG, HARD-FOUGHT CAMPAIGN,' SAYS COUNTY COUNCIL LEADER

THE government's announcement this week that the full A303 corridor, including the A358 from the Ilminster roundabout to Taunton and the A30, would be upgraded with a £2billion investment was met with widespread approval in South Somerset.

The coalition government made the announcement as part of this week's Autumn Statement. After years of lobbying by local authorities it was revealed that the route between Amesbury and Taunton would be fully dualled - with the section between Ilminster and the M5 at Taunton costing £300million - and a 2.9km tunnel costing £1.2billion would be built around Stonehenge as part of a Road Investment Strategy.

The plan does not involve dualling the A303 over the sensitive Blackdown Hills Area of Outstanding National Beauty, but instead there will be smaller scale improvements to this stretch of road.

Cllr John Osman, leader of Somerset County Council, said: "We've worked so hard to put the A303 and the A358 right back at the top of the government's agenda and it's great news that all our hard work has paid off.

"Today's announcement is the result of a long, hard-fought campaign and I'd like to publically thank everyone involved – from all those within the partnership, to the many businesses who pledged their support and every member of the public who wrote to the Department for Transport or signed a petition.

"We'll celebrate today's news but my pledge to you is we will keep up the pressure until work is finished and we can all benefit from shorter, safer and more reliable journey times."

Representatives from Somerset County Council have met with three different Transport Ministers, sent numerous letters and held two MP briefing sessions in Westminster to gather support. In partnership with neighbouring authorities, they have commissioned economic studies to highlight the benefits of improvements, and surveyed hundreds of businesses and visitors to show the widespread support.

These showed that improvements could provide 21,400 jobs, a £41.6billion boost to the economy and £1.9billion in transport benefits from reduced journey times. An upgrade could also prevent more than 1,800 fatal or serious injuries over 60 years and reduce carbon emissions by nine per cent.

Councillor Osman added: "We set the bar very high with our objectives. We were very clear that just improving parts of the route was not enough and we needed major investment and a commitment to improving the whole route, including Stonehenge, and also including both the A358 to Taunton and the A30 to Honiton.

"The A358 is crucial to future economic growth in Taunton and Bridgwater, and will also serve new developments at Hinkley, whilst only by improving the A30 will we have a second reliable strategic link through to the South West as an alternative to the M5.

"Today's announcement means we should finally have a road which is fit for purpose. It will generate a significant boost for the Somerset economy and some consolation for the thousands of motorists who have suffered from delays over so many years."

Tim Carroll, deputy leader of South Somerset District Council and and portfolio holder for Finance and Spatial Planning, commented: "This is really great news for the host of organisations and individuals that has tirelessly campaigned over the last three decades for the A303 dualling to be completed.

"I am pleased that the Sparkford/Ilchester section has been highlighted for an early start as this has been one of this council's five priorities for improvement along the route but we will continue to press for the rest of the sections to be done as a matter of urgency.

"There were observations that congestion only occurred in the summer holiday season along this route but, as anyone local will tell you, we experience congestion and delays on a daily basis on the stretches through South Somerset which causes disruption both to our businesses and residents. In addition, there is the safety issue of the three 'offset' roundabouts at Sparkford, South Petherton and Ilminster where HGVs have frequently overturned and it is a miracle that these accidents haven't resulted in greater casualties.

"The proposed early dualling of the A358 section from Ilminster to Junction 25 is also welcomed as it not only forms part of main east/west route from the M3 to M5 but also is a critically important North/South regional route from the M5 to the south coast via Yeovil and Dorchester.

"This year is significant as it marks the 10th anniversary of the announcement back in 2004 by Alistair Darling that the then Labour government had accepted the recommendations of the South West Multi-Modal Study that the A303/A358 would form the second strategic road transport route into the South West after the M4/M5 and that the A303/A358 would be dualled along its length.

"Three years later, that government reversed its decision and the opportunity was lost. A clear message from the South West must now go back to all political parties in parliament that this region cannot and should not be disappointed again and we should seek their commitment to that end.

"So good news for our residents and businesses and also good news for holidaymakers whose abiding memory of Somerset used to be a three-mile tailback on the Ilminster bypass – hopefully to become soon an impression of the past."

David Laws, MP for the Yeovil Constituency, has also been a keen supporter of dualling the road since being elected as MP in 2001.

He commented: "I am absolutely delighted that the coalition government is going ahead with this significant plan to upgrade the A303 and the A358 – neither of which are currently fit for purpose. Current levels of road congestion and delays are unacceptable, and it is totally inappropriate that a busy A303 runs right past Stonehenge – a monument of world heritage importance.

'Exactly what I wanted'

"I have been campaigning for this plan for many years, and it has taken a Coalition Government with a strong Liberal Democrat membership to finally secure some action.

"The plan is exactly what I have wanted – with the A303 dualled from Ilminster eastwards, and the A358 dualled up to the M5 at Taunton. This is good news for travel across the region and within Somerset – making it easier for my constituents to access Taunton, the M5 and the M3.

"We now need to ensure that this plan moves ahead without delay, and we have to ensure that political support for it lasts well beyond the General Election next year. I promise to continue supporting this plan, and I will hold this government and its successor governments to account for delivering it.

"I will also press for double tracking of the railway line from Salisbury to Exeter. We need not only first class roads in our region but also high quality rail services. At present, the rail services from Weymouth to Bristol are too infrequent and can be very overcrowded, not least in summer. Now that we have got a good plan for the A303 and A358, we need to strongly press the case for significantly better rail services, both East/West and North/South."

Somerset Chamber of Commerce, whoch lobbied the government for road improvements to ensure Somerset remained a competitive place for business, also welcomed the news.

Rupert Cox, CEO of the chamber, said: "This is good news for Somerset's businesses and the wider economy. We have been calling on successive governments to finish the job of dualling the A303, and now we have the chance to make it happen.

"With excellent road and rail connectivity coupled with the improving superfast broadband availability and competitive property prices, Somerset now has an even better opportunity to promote itself as a great place from which to do business.

"Our only concern is that being a 10 to 12 year plan, future governments could renege on this commitment, so we would urge all the main political parties to commit to honouring this announcement."

Chairman Graham Knight added: "We welcome the announcement and the additional jobs this will bring to the South West. There have been real problems on these routes for a long time, with congestion getting worse every year as traffic volumes increase. It is now important that Somerset responds with detailed plans to capitalise on the improvements."

■ **DELIGHTED: David Laws MP has welcomed the news of road improvements after campaigning for them since his election in 2001**

Local businesses which will benefit from the improvements have also said they are pleased with the annoucement.

Simon Saunders, owner of Ariel Atom Motors based in Crewkerne, added: "This is great news and will vastly improve things for us. We and our customers rely on the A303 and A358 and in the summer they can be purgatory.

"It has a direct impact on our business. People say they just won't come and see us on a here on a Friday because of the traffic. We have customers who say how long they've been stuck on the road and we have to plan in lots of time when we're travelling because we don't know how long it's going to take."

But the news wasn't universally welcomed. Peter Lansdown, South Somerset Green Party secretary, said: "Dualling will actually make these things worse as traffic grows to fill the space available. I remember when the M1 was new and empty; today it is older, wider, and full.

"Bigger roads and increased traffic are likely to damage tourism as they may destroy the very things tourists come here to find – peace, tranquility and beauty."

Fire crews called to fallen tree

FIREFIGHTERS rushed to a house in Cricket Malherbie, Ilminster, hit by a falling tree.

They were called just after 4.15am on Thursda, November 27th, and a spokesperson for the fire and rescue service said: "Fire control mobilised three appliances - from Ilminster, Chard and Yeovil - and the Specialist Rescue Team from Bridgwater following reports from the police of a tree fallen onto a property, with the occupant unable to get out.

"On arrival, crews found the occupant to be out of the property and no further appliances were required to attend. The remaining two appliances assisted the police with making the scene safe.

"Western Power Distribution and BT were requested to attend as a large branch from a 100ft oak tree had affected cables. A road closure was put in place and Highways were requested to attend along with a tree surgeon.

"The property sustained damage to the roof and masonry, advice was given to the occupier."

Tree festive to raise charity funds

MORE than 50 local and national charities will benefit from a Christmas tree festive being held at the Minster Church, Ilminster, between Monday, December 8th and Saturday 13th.

The festival will be open from 9am to 5pm Monday to Friday and from 9am to 4pm on Saturday 13th when there will also be a Christmas fair between 10am and 12noon offering cakes, books, DVDs, a Christmas raffle and much more.

The festival will include 55 decorated trees all sponsored by local families, schools, businesses and associations for the charity of their choice. Admission is free.

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Charity Santa run gets Chard in Christmas spirit

■ WARMING UP: Above and below right, Santa Run participants joined in a warm-up led by the kelly Leigh Dancers before the race

■ JOINING IN: The Mayor of Chard, Councillor Jenny Kenton, and husband Andy

CHARD embraced the Christmas spirit on Friday evening as the town swtiched on its festive illuminations.

Festivities included the annual Santa Run in aid of the mayor's chosen charities, displays by the Kelly Leigh Dancers and Chard Goldstar Majorettes, and a Christmas fayre in the Guildhall before the lights were switched on by the town's own Calendar Girls Marion Day and Theresa Jane Gay, the Chard Carnival royal party and Father Christmas himself.

The Calendar Girls were invited to take part in the event after stripping for Breast Cancer Awareness and Cancer Research UK and being captured by local photographer Hayley Lynch earlier this year. A total of 1,000 calendars were printed and only 50 remain.

Photos by GARY TANNER

■ THE BIG MOMENT: The switch-on party get readyto light up the town

■ ON SANTA'S SLEIGH: Children and volunteers have fun on the sleigh

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Ferne presents prizes to logo colouring competition winners

STAFF at Ferne Animal Sanctuary, based in Wambrook, near Chard, presented prizes to winner of its recent colouring competition this week.

The sanctuary ran a free competition to see who could best colour in its new logo for the £1million "New Digs for Dogs" campaign to build a new enhanced kennel block, improved grooming and veterinary care room, information hub, social unit, offices, reception and purpose built rehoming centre at the Wambrook site.

The competition was judged by staff from Numatic International, based in Chard, and first place winners in each category received a Ferne goody bag. Winning entries will also be displayed at the sanctuary.

Winners were as follows:

Six years and under - 1st Ebonie Powell, 2nd Phoebe Brister, 3rd Redgan Mitchell; 7-12 years - 1st Herminoe Beasley, 2nd Jessica Crabb, 3rd Toby Ernill

The winners are pictured above with Sharon Pavey, head of fundraising and marketing at Ferne, and Claire Scott from Numatic.

For more information about Ferne Animal Sanctuary and its "New Digs for Dogs" campaign, visit www.ferneanimalsanctuary.org

Oak Lodge receives donation of £900

OAK Lodge Care Centre in Chard has been given a much-appreciated donation of £900.50.

Ken Harper's wife Valerie was a resident at Oak Lodge but sadly passed away recently.

Mr Harper and his children, Jill and Ros and Keith, decided that they would like the donations from Valerie's funeral to go to the home to help towards its fundraising efforts for a new mini-bus.

Gemma Jones, senior activities co-ordinator, said: "A huge thanks to Valerie's family for their extremely kind donation.

"We are extremely grateful for this wonderful donation. £900 will go a long way and will make a big difference to our mini-bus fundraising campaign.

"Thanks to everyone who donated at the service and thank you to Ken and his family for thinking of us at this difficult time."

■ GRATEFUL: Pictured right, Oak Lodge manager Amanda Kelly and senior activities co-ordinator Gemma Jones receives the cheque from Mr Harper

Got a story for Chard? Call Anders on 01297 631120 or 01297 446161

ADVERTISER'S ANNOUNCEMENT

Permitted Development rights – New rules for agricultural buildings

IN MARCH 2014 the government published detailed legislation relating to the conversion of redundant agricultural building to residential dwellings without the need to apply for planning consent. These new rules came into force on April 6th 2014.

The new Permitted Development rights only apply in England and allow for the conversion of agricultural buildings into residential properties.

They will not apply to listed buildings or buildings in designated areas such as National Parks, Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty or Sites of Special Scientific Interest.

Overall, the new Permitted Development rights are welcome news for landowners of under utilised buildings or buildings no longer suited to modern agriculture although there are still a number of restrictions that you need to be aware of.

You should also bear in mind that if you fall foul of any of the requirements, you cannot rely on Permitted Development rights and will instead need to submit a planning application.

Even though you may not need to apply for planning consent, there will be occasions where you will need to notify your local authority to determine if a prior approval application will be needed for certain issues.

This will allow them to decide whether their prior approval is needed in respect of transport and highway impacts, noise impacts, contamination and flooding risks.

The authority will also consider whether their prior approval is needed to consider whether the location of the building makes it impractical or undesirable for the building to be used as a dwelling house.

It may be deemed by some that these restrictions give local authorities plenty of ammunition to prevent conversions they consider undesirable.

Whether this is the case or not remains to be seen but it would appear that now is the perfect time to take advantage of these changes.

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Crewkerne Christmas Lighting Up was 'best ever'

ORGANISERS of this year's Christmas Lighting Up event in Crewkerne have said it was the best yet.

There were more stalls, more entertainment, more town centre shops and businesses open and more people attending. The annual children's Christmas hat competition was also a hit with organisers commenting that the standard of entries was particularly high.

Once again, Merriott Majorettes preceded Santa's sleigh along Market Street and into the Square where the man in red led the countdown to the switch on of the town's Christmas lights, watched by a crowd of thousands, before taking place in his grotto to meet children.

New to this year's display was a nativity scene outside the town hall, with figures purcahsed by the town council with donations from local churches, Yarcombe Woodland Products made the crib.

Annette Roffey, spokesperson for Crewkerne Christmas Committee, said: "The Committee is delighted with this year's event; it really has been a huge success but, as with many events, its success relies upon volunteers and we would like to thank them all, including members of the town's Rotary Club, the members of Churches Together who between them baked hundreds of mince pies and a dozen huge yule logs, the majorettes who turn out every year whatever the weather, plus many more.

"Thanks should also go to all the town centre shops and businesses who joined in the celebrations by staying open and offering festive goodies to visitors.

"The Lighting Up has become the best attended, free event in Crewkerne's annual calendar but the Committee relies upon the generous donations of the public to ensure its continuation. Although the town council pays for the cost of putting up the town centre lights the committee has to cover the costs for the event, including insurance, hire of hall and stage, and also to purchase new lights."

Photos by STEVE MONK

■ **FESTIVE TUNES: The CUDOS anf Friends Choir entertain. Below, sweet treats offered in the library by Juliet Lacey, Sue Moore, Emma Dunn, Anne Bright**

■ FUNDRAISING: Merriott Majorettes members Carrera Elson, Abbi O'Donnell, Elana Elson, Jack O'Donnell run a raffle

■ WINTER WARMER: John and Diana Dyke, Roger Allen, Viv Tyack, Di Frost and Marion Kelwell giving away mulled wine

■ KEEP ON MARCHING: Merriott Majorettes perform for the crowds

■ CHRISTMAS CRAFTS: Children in the Christmas hat competition

Camping out this Christmas

■ FIGHTING CLIMATE CHANGE: Abbie Barnes will camp every night in december to raise awareness of global climate change

ENVIRONMENTAL enthusiast Abbie Barnes, from Crewkerne, will be camping out every night this December to highlight the issue of global climate change.

The 18-year-old former Richard Huish student has already made a name for herself as an award-winning wildlife filmmaker, presenter and conservationist, recognised internationally for her work regarding environmental protection. She plans to film her month of camping challenge, named "Advent in a Tent", to raise awareness of climate change and green living.

Abbie said: "December is one of the most energy-intense months of the year, with Christmas, New Year's Eve and all that partying, so I've decided to mix things up a little.

"I will be camping outside each night in various locations, banned from my bed and releasing daily videos with tips and challenges to make our lives greener and more environmentally friendly and monitoring and calculating my carbon footprint, with a summary at the end of the month.

"My aim is to highlight that global climate change is no longer a threat but a reality; sea levels are rising, land ice is melting, and precipitation patterns are changing right now.

"I believe that climate action should begin in our own homes and so I'm inviting people to follow my daily video-logs, take part in the challenges and to camp out for one night of December!

"People will be able to send in their pictures of themselves and their family camping out to me and will feature in the monthly summary film."

Abbie, who is currenylu on a gap year and hopes to study environmental science at Exeter University Cornwall campus next year, plans to camp in Local Nature Reserves and other environmentally-friendly locations during the month.

To follow her progress and join in, visit the website www.songthrush-productions.co.uk/advent-in-a-tent

Advertiser's Announcement

Free range Christmas Geese from Whitney Farm

DAN and Sarah Dunning won the tenancy of Whitney Farm in 2008. It's easy to see Dan is enthusiastic about the farm, "We really appreciate the chance to run a County Council tenant farm, at a time when Somerset is selling off its farms. Though we may not have long here, our passion is to produce fresh, free-range, really tasty produce, using traditional farming methods, and native breeds enables us to do this."

Food and farming go hand in hand, both are extremely important to Dan and Sarah. Their love of quality food and attention to detail certainly gives them an edge when it comes to the quality of their products and service. Sarah, full time mum and Farmers wife says, "We feel really strongly that people should be able to buy quality food, at an affordable price direct from the producer. Cutting out the middle man ensures you know exactly how the food you are eating has been produced, and at the same time makes it more affordable."

Dan is really enthusiastic about the tradition of eating Goose at Christmas, "Rearing Geese for Christmas is an important part of our history. Until the Turkey was introduced to this country, Goose was the traditional bird of choice. We are happy to be encouraging the recent re-growth in this tradition. Christmas dinner is the most special meal of the year, why would anyone want to spoil it with turkey?"

Whitney Farm is a small, mainly grassland farm situated just outside of Ilminster. It is home to a flock of Geese as well as a small herd of native breed cattle, all their animals are reared to the highest welfare standards and are allowed to graze naturally.

Geese are available to order now, and Beef boxes are available all year round. Don't leave ordering too late to avoid disappointment!

Whitney Farm

Christmas Geese

Free Range Geese

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Fire crew looking for new on-call firefighters

ILMINSTER Fire Station is hosting an open evening for prospective on-call firefighters on Wednesday, December 10th at 7pm.

Devon and Somerset Fire & Rescue Service is looking for people in the Ilminster community to be on-call or retained firefighters. No previous experience of firefighting is necessary for this role – the ideal prospective firefighter starts with a commitment to the community, a positive attitude and a good level of fitness.

This is an opportunity for men and women who live and/or work within five minutes response time to the fire station to potentially save lives in fire, flood and road traffic emergencies. The station is particularly looking for cover from 6am to 6pm, five days a week, including some weekends.

Being on-call means that you provide a level of cover whilst at work or at home and when you are needed your pager will alert you to attend the station. People who can give cover during the day are particularly needed.

You need to be over 18 and have a good level of fitness and strength, but sometimes people overestimate the levels required and this can deter them (particularly women) from applying. The service will give people advice and help in preparing for both the written and practical assessments.

Equally, living with a disability is not automatically a barrier to operational fire-fighting; it depends on the nature of the disability. Once you are recruited full training is provided.

Rotary hosting coffee morning

The Rotary Club of Ilminster hopes for a huge turnout at its coffee morning on Saturday, December 6th.

Apart from hot drinks there will also be books, gifts and crafts for sale. The coffee morning will run from 9am to 12noon at Shrubbery Hotel.

Got a story for The Weekender? Call Anders on 01297 446152 or 01297 631120

District and county councillor marks 60th birthday with weekend of charity events

ILMINSTER district and county councillor Linda Vijeh hosted six events in aid of her chosen charities to mark her 60th birthday, and it turned out to be the best one.

The events were held over a weekend and Linda explained: "I have never been a fan of the traditional big bash, but once every 10 years I like to show my appreciation to all of those who in the intervening years have provided much needed advice, support and help.

"Each event was very different, and apart from a 'posh' afternoon tea, each occasion was a low-key affair, very casual, and involved minimum expenditure and effort. In exchange for my hospitality those attending were asked to dig deep into their pockets in support."

The chain of events kick-started with a quiz in aid of Samaritans, where everyone wore something green and enjoyed a sandwich supper provided by the ladies from Moose Hall.

Hot on its heels was a screening of the 1954 Oscar winning film "On the Waterfront" with puds, popcorn and punch to raise money for Ilminster Entertainments Society.

This was followed by a simple one-course supper of shepherd's pie at Sweet Surprise, with excellent service provided by the adults with learning disabilities who work and train at this social enterprise. The money raised will go towards a new kitchen worktop.

Linda said: "This time 10 years ago there was considerable doubt about my health, so it seemed appropriate to show my thanks for survival at church whilst at the same time raising funds for Ilminster Food Bank.

"Everyone stoked up on a full cooked breakfast, with sausages and bacon provided by our charitable local butcher, Bonner's, at a healthy discount.

"For those with a cultural bent, and to support Chard Museum, mulled wine and music provided the opportunity for anyone with an urge to entertain to get up and sing or play.

"Finally, we all trooped off for a cream tea at The Shrubbery, with strawberry jam made by yours truly, and a rather risqué one act play directed by Celia Crooke.

"Money donated at this event helped to ensure that the Rotary Club of Ilminster could sponsor an additional youngster for its Youth Leadership course next year.

"Attended by 260 people from as far afield as France, Chicago and New York, during three exhausting days of activity, we managed to raise £1,300 in all.

"What marked the occasion as something special, however, was the generosity, both in terms of time and money, of all those involved in one way or another; people from all walks of life contributing what they could, whether it was their hard-earned cash, hosting visitors, lending a film projector, providing transport, baking cakes or washing up.

"This was without doubt the best birthday anyone could wish for. Not all of us are wealthy, but there are many ways in which we can contribute towards making our local community a better place for us all."

Local MP pleased with Beacon progress

LOCAL MP David Laws has this week welcomed progress being made to repair the B3168, known as The Beacon, in Ilminster.

The much-needed work to repair the road, which has been closed since February after being damaged in poor weather, began on October 27th and South Somerset highways office announced that it was scheduled to take seven weeks, meaning the road would be open in time for Christmas.

Although there has been some bed weather recently, the work is progressing well and the highways office is still confident that the road will be ready to reopen during the week commencing the December 15th.

Mr Laws said: "Everybody in the local area has been waiting an awfully long time for The Beacon to be repaired, and there was a lot of relief when the work finally began last month.

"I am pleased to see that the work has progressed well, despite the poor weather, and that the repairs are still scheduled to finish before Christmas. Hopefully the highways office will be able to stick to this timeframe and December will mark the end of this long-running and frustrating saga."

Advertisers Announcement

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Place a star on our Remembrance Tree

Donations collected for the Teenage Cancer Trust

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CHRISTMAS REMEMBRANCE

A SPECIAL 'remembrance tree' has been erected in the B.Gibbs Funeral Services office, 28 Fore Street, Chard. This stunning tree will be adorned in beautiful remembrance stars throughout the Christmas season and members of the public are invited to place a personal remembrance star on the tree to fondly think of lost loved ones.

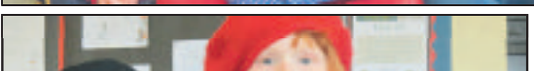
There is also a collection for the Teenage Cancer Trust and any small donations are greatly welcomed.

The Teenage Cancer Trust is an incredible charity that creates world-class cancer services for young people in the UK, providing life-changing care and support so young people don't have to face cancer alone. It is extremely close to the hearts of those at B.Gibbs Funeral Services as the daughter of a good friend is currently receiving support for her battle with lymphoma.

As an incredible act of charity, in the New Year, B.Gibbs also vows to match the donations collected and publish the amount raised!

So please visit the office to place a star on the tree to remember the loved ones that are no longer with us, and if you can, please make a donation, however small it may be.

▲ Barry Gibbs, Emily Jones, Chard Mayor Councilor Jenny Kenton, Sam Jones and Laura Jones, around the Remembrance Tree.



CHILDREN from Chard School recently enjoyed a French-theme day. The pupils tucked into a French breakfast of croissants, pain au chocolat, two types of brioche, pain aux raisin, baguette, two types of pate, French cheese, orange juice and hot chocolate, followed by special activities including a quiz, treasure hunt and traditional boules. The pupils wore red, white and blue or French costume to raise funds for Children in Need. The day also tied in with the national Movember campaign, as many students wore fake moustaches as part of their costumes and to support maths and science teacher Mr Lucas, who grew a moustache during November. The school would like to thank Miller's Farm Shop in Kilmington for donating French sweets and lollies for the day.

Cheap and healthy ways to cook this Christmas on show at food festival

CHARD'S Wednesday community cooking group, Bubble & Speak Community Kitchen, is organising a Christmas festival of food-related activities to get people together to share ideas about how to have fun as they cook delicious healthy food on a budget.

CHAR-Delicious Christmas - Chard's Cheap and Easy Food Festival, will be held on Saturday, December 13th in the Guildhall in Chard from 10am to 3pm, and will offer a host of Christmas-themed ideas to help transform your festive season. Entry is free and everyone is welcome.

Highlight of the day for many will be making Christmas pancakes with the help of Sarah and the team from Eleos Café in Chard. Makers will be asked for a contribution of £2, with half covering the cost of ingredients and the rest a donation to support local charities in Chard.

There will be demonstrations of winter soups and salads, with free samples for people to try. The volunteer cooks preparing them will include members of Bubble & Speak, which meets every Wednesday at 11am in the Guildhall to cook a two-course meal and learn more about cooking great tasting healthy food on a budget.

Kate Rew, who runs Bubble & Speak, said: "CHAR-Delicious Christmas food festival is a chance to discover fun new ways to enjoy the festive season, using seasonal ingredients to make delicious Christmas dishes."

Another highlight of the day will be the Christmas leftovers challenge with prizes donated by local businesses for the best ideas of how to use of all those delicious tit-bits. And children can make gingerbread decorations for your tree or display.

Kate set up Bubble & Speak in 2013, and there's now a regular group of happy cooks meeting each Wednesday. The first CHAR-Delicious event was held in May and was very successful. She also works as an NHS Fresh Steps health trainer in the town.

She said: "Many of the people I work with have transformed their lives by getting together to cook delicious, healthy meals on a budget – I hope many more people in the Chard area can get involved."

New toys for Clare House

Customers at Sainsbury's in Chard were kind enough to donate toys to Clare House Nursery School. Pictured are children from the nursery, along with two of the staff, being presented with their new toys by Sainsbury's staff.

CHRISTMAS TREES

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Spot the CHRISTMAS TURKEY!

Simply count the number of cartoon turkeys, like the one to the right, that appear in this edition of The Weekender, including the one on this page, and win...

... A CHRISTMAS HAMPER

A 2-2.2kg boned and rolled turkey crown
10 pigs in blankets, 450g sausage meat
225g streaky bacon, 10 stuffing balls

Send your answer on a postcard along with your name, address and telephone number to:

FAO Kirsten Taylor, The Weekender Spot the Turkey Competition
Unit 3, St. Michael's Business Centre, Church Street, Lyme Regis, Dorset, DT7 3DB

Competition entries must be received by Friday, December 19th.
The editor will pick a correct entry by random, editor's decision is final.

Not sure about buying and cooking a whole turkey - fear not! To make Christmas less stressful why not try the Christmas Dinner Box from Complete Meats. All the meat you need for a lovely festive meal: a 2kg boned and rolled turkey crown (no waste or awkward carving), 10 pigs in blankets, 450g sausage meat, 225g streaky bacon and 10 stuffing balls - plenty of meat for up to 8 people - all of this for just £29.99.

If you prefer traditional turkey, other poultry or meat, then Complete Meats continue to use local suppliers to ensure the best quality. They also stock lots of lovely tasty treats in their delicatessen counters, perfect for a Christmas party or Boxing Day lunch.

So pop into one of the Complete Meats shops to place an order and it will be packed and ready to collect on the day you choose. They will be closed on Saturday 27th December so why not pre-order your weekend meat and collect it with your Christmas order. Complete Meats look forward to serving you this Christmas and thank you in advance for supporting your local farmers and traders.

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Pets Pantry

PETS Pantry is situated in Holyrood Street and has been Chards favourite pet store for many years.

Stocking everything from pet carriers, toys, feeds, treats, leads, flea-treatments and much more, they really have absolutely everything you and your pet will ever need!

Now in stock are some fantastic festive dog toys and chew toys to keep your four-legged friend entertained over the Christmas period. Also, so your pet isn't left out, there are Christmas stockings for cats, dogs and small animals. Functional and fashionable dog coats are also available to help your best friend stay warm as the cold nights draw in, as well as cosy beds to ensure complete comfort and a perfect nights rest.

Our pets are family and give so much love and enjoyment throughout the years, so why not give something back this Christmas, visit Pets Pantry and make all your pets Christmas wishes come true!

BD Garden & Pet Supplies

AT BD Garden & Pet Supplies we now have in stock Christmas decorations, wrapping paper, Christmas cards, Childrens toys, gifts, puzzles, Christmas lights, and many more festive gifts for you to choose from.

We stock a wide variety & range of pet foods & treats for your pets alongside seasonal plants, bird tables and potted plants.

We also stock a range of beautiful Wedding & Christening gifts, we really do have something for everyone!

Please come in and see us at 6 Ditton Street, Ilminster, Somerset or call us on 01460 52967.

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The Weekender in South Somerset

ADVERTISER'S ANNOUNCEMENT – SLIMMING WORLD

I FOUND Slimming World in 2009 after receiving a leaflet through my door. I had just had my third child and was struggling to cope with my new food habit, which was eat and run.

I found I had been skipping meals and then filling up on the wrong foods and my baby weight just wasn't shifting.

Joining the group was tough but so worth it and I found the group to be a warm and friendly place to get the support I needed to make changes to my lifestyle. I really enjoyed the group and became a social member, helping out with the running of the weekly class I attended.

This was when I was asked how I feel about Slimming World and the group. My reply was that I love it and love giving a little something back by helping the group.

My consultant asked if I had ever thought of becoming a consultant and working alongside her to help even more locals in the area lose weight. At first I laughed it off, but couldn't shake off the word 'help'.

This led to me going along to an opportunity event to find out more about the role of a consultant.

I came away thinking 'wow, I can do this'. They didn't want a list of qualifications – they just wanted to know about me and why I was there. I was called a few days later and offered an interview and that was the beginning of the new me.

After the interview, I attended the training (all free) and sat my diplomas, meaning I could open my very own group in the town I lived in. I opened my very first group in Beaminster in January 2010 and since then have become a consultant in Bridport too.

I love the role and meeting locals, being part of their lifestyle change and being there for them every week to ensure they are set up for success. Slimming World gives every consultant the opportunity to further their career at any time, followed up with more training.

I'm really excited to share that, as of November 1st this year, I became a team developer and now look after a team of consultants to support them with their goals to help their members, as well as recruit members to join our amazing team. What I love the most about this role is that I'm still able to run my own groups alongside this new position, and the hours are still flexible to fit into the busy life of being a wife and mum of three.

I'm sharing my story because on Friday, December 5th there is a chance to come along and find out more about the rewarding role of a Slimming World consultant. I truly believe that, for the right person, this is the best job in the world and we would love to share the local opportunities with you.

This is an evening for Slimming World members past and present to get together for an informal evening where they can find out what's involved in becoming a Slimming World consultant .

There is the chance to ask all the questions you need to and to chat with local consultants and managers, and there is absolutely no commitment at all.

Slimming World is growing at an astounding rate. However, the scale of obesity in the UK seems to be growing faster. We are committed to helping these people find healthier, happier lives and we need your help.

We have over 20 groups in the area that need their own consultant and also have room to add 25 new groups across the region. If you think this might be just what you are looking for, come along and find out more.

The event takes place on Friday, December 5th at 5pm at Monks Yard, Horton Cross Farm, Horton Cross, Ilminster, TA19 9PT.

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View From's Mo Bros raise more than £150

■ TWO staff members at the *View From* newspapers raised more than £150 for the national Movember campaign by growing moustaches for a month. Assistant sales manager Rob Coombe, from Lyme Regis, who works on the *View From* titles in West Dorset, and sales executive Jae Verhaeren, from Axminster, who works on the *Weekender* titles in South Somerset, paired up to take part in the national campaign which raises funds for male cancers, including testicular and prostate cancer. You can still sponsor them online at www.movember.com/uk/donate/payment/team_id/1843557

Christmas spirit in Hinton

■ THE Christmas Fayre in Hinton St George was a roaring success and made a profit of £1,100 to be split equally between Hinton St George First School and St George's Pre-School. As in previous years, the highlight was Santa arriving by helicopter, the aircraft being piloted and provided by local businessman Andrew Whitehouse. The fayre was held on Saturday, November 29th, and organisers were very grateful to Yarcombe Woodland Products, Wookey Hole and Tropiquaria Adventure Park for donating raffle prizes. ***Photo by STEVE MONK***

Santa Claus is coming to town!

FATHER Christmas has accepted Eclipse Carnival Club's invitation to tour Chard and surrounding areas by float.

The first tour took place on Tuesday, December 2nd, with more to come.

A club spokesperson said: "People can find out more details by clicking on our Facebook page, Eclipse Carnival Club.

"We will update it regularly with how Santa is getting on, and there is also post boxes on the float this year so that children can give the collectors their letters."

The schedule is as follows:

Friday, December 5th - Phelps Close, Helmstedt Way, Britannia Way, John Gunn Close, Glanville Avenue, Gifford Close, Glynswood, East Street, Victoria Avenue; Saturday, December 6th - Glynswood, Elizabeth Way, Redstart Road, Morangis Way, Crimchard, Northover Drive, Bondfield Way Laurel Gardens; Sunday, December 7th - Henson Park, Stringfellow Crescent, Touches, Lower Touches, Touches Meadow, Cerdic Close, Avishayes; Tuesday, December 9th - Touchstone Lane, Touchstone Close, Rack Close, Snowdon, High Street, Coombe Street; Friday, December 12th - Nursery Gardens, Monmouth Court, Oakland's Avenue, Barberry Drive, Crewkerne Road, East Street; Saturday, December 13th - Tatworth, South Chard; Sunday, December 14th - Winsham, Chard Junction, Thorncombe; Tuesda,y December 16th - Hervey Road, Millfield, Bubwith Road and Close, Silver and East Street, Dwelly Close, Montague Way, Auckland Way; Friday, December 19th - Combe St Nicholas; Saturday, December 20th - Mintons, Bonfire, St Mary's Close, Minton's Orchard, Mitchell Gardens, Brian Mooney Close, Toms Close, Springmead, Halcombe; Sunday, December 21st - King Alfred Drive, King Athelstan, Ash Croft, Grange Park, Forton, Forton Road, estates off Forton Road.

■ FATHER Christmas will also be making the rounds in Crewkerne, oragnised by the Crewkerne and District Rotary Club.

Santa will tour Crewkerne and surrounding villages on his sleigh on the following evenings between 6.15pm and 8.30pm:

Monday 8th – Misterton; Tuesday 9th - Lang Road; Wednesday 10th - Kit Hill and adjoining roads; Monday 15th – Merriott; Tuesday 16th - Wadham Park (from Wadham School to half way down); Wednesday 17th - Wadham Park (from half way down to North Street).

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STOCKING FILLERS

Belshazzar's Feast bring winter tour to South Petherton

See page 15

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10am to 3pm
40 stalls:
Christmas Cakes and Puddings, Lavender, Leather, Glassware, Gemstones, Gifts, Produce, Preserves and much more...
For more information call Crewkerne Town Council on 01460 74001
or visit www.crewkernetown.org/TownCouncil

Murder at Checkmate Manor

THERE are those in non-professional (the 'modern' term for amateur) theatre who get a bit snippy at shows that present them in a less than favourable light.

Forgotten lines are not funny, a set collapsing is tragic not comic and a missed lighting cue is a cause for embarrassment not laughter. However, the large audiences that turn out for shows like 'Noises Off' or 'The Show That Went Wrong' would seem to suggest that the public don't agree, and that is fortunate for the Warehouse Theatre as it is presenting *'The Farndale Avenue Housing Estate Townswomen's Guild Dramatic Society's Murder Mystery'* from December 10th to 13th.

The women of the Guild do their best but whatever they do seems destined for disaster, be it the Murder Mystery play, the film that precedes it, the quiz or the fashion show (yes.. fashion show) in this highly entertaining piece by David McGilivray and Walter Zerlin JNR. This will be a great pre Christmas laugh for those 7 to 70+, don't miss it.

For more details see the advert below.

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An enticing selection of contemporary crafts, all beautifully made and ideal as Christmas presents for friends and family. The carefully selected exhibition will include: colourful ceramics, intricate needlework kits, hand-woven bowties, twirling wire jewellery, tiny carved wooden birds, bold, bright lino-cuts, hand marbled books and boxes and much, much more!
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10TH - 13TH DECEMBER AT 7:30PM
Tickets £9 (concessions £8 Child/Student £7)
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call Jae Verhaeren
on 01297 446153
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What's Happening at Ilminster Arts Centre

with Finn Burton

AS winter draws in, and December begins Ilminster Arts Centre is already looking ahead to Christmas, with its festive **Christmas Magic** exhibition, which started on 24th November and ends on 23rd of this month, featuring contemporary crafts, ideal as special presents for friends and family.

The Arts Centre welcomes back **Steve Graham's Classic Jazz** on 12th, a seven-piece band featuring Mike Denham, Jon Wurr and of course, Steve Graham. They'll be playing music inspired by the sound of New Orleans as well as the classic rags of Scott Joplin, on this their third visit to the Arts Centre as a full band.

Workshops continue with our informal **Clay** sculpture workshops on the 1st, as well as the 8th and 15th, the **Watercolour Workshop** on 5th, and our **Readers Group** and **Rag Rugs** workshops, both on 12th. The relaxed and friendly **Oil Painting for All** and **Drawing for All** classes will both end this month, but there's still time to book for the new sessions which will begin on 7th January. You're also invited to come along to **Knit Tog**, **Crochet Too** on 18th and join us at the **Felt Making** session on 19th. Some workshops will have a materials list, available when booking.

The popular **Local Craft and Produce Market** will be on Saturday 6th December, and will as always be the place to go for creative, high quality local goods from in and around Somerset, particularly as the advent calendars countdown to Christmas. **The Antiques and Vintage Collectables Fair** on 20th will feature a variety of interesting items, so don't miss the chance to browse and buy that last minute present.

On 15th, those with an interest in jazz may want to join the **Jazz Jam Session** group, experimenting around well-known Jazz standards and tunes, although those who would just like to come and listen are very welcome too.

Remember, the latest Ilminster Arts Centre brochure will be out soon but in the meantime, take a look at our website for some exciting events coming up in the New Year. Merry Christmas from the Ilminster Arts Centre!

Booking details:
01460 54973
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1 1/2 miles outside Chard on the A30
Charitable Trust No: 245671 VAT No: 124428433

STOCKING FILLERS

Belshazzar's Feast bring winter tour to the David Hall

IN 1995 Paul Hutchinson (accordion) and Paul Sartin (oboe, violin and vocals) shared a musical passion borne out of the desire to earn sufficient money to support their extravagant lifestyles. Their amazing musicianship coupled with wry humour stunned audiences around Europe and the States.

As a singer, oboist, violinist, composer and arranger Paul performs and records extensively with BBC Radio 2 Folk Awards Winners and Nominees Bellowhead, Belshazzar's Feast and Faustus. He edits publications of music manuscripts, delivers workshops, and is Consultant and Director of the Andover Museum Loft Singers. Having gained an Honours Degree and Choral Scholarship at Oxford, he gained a First for his Masters in Traditional Music, and in 2007 recieved a 75th Anniversary Award from the English Folk Dance and Song Society. His recent composition, 'The Hartlepool Monkey', for Streetwise Opera, was nominated for a BASCA award.

Paul is well known from his work with Hoover the Dog, Karen Tweed and the Playford Liberation Front. He is a superlative accordion player with a unique style inspired by church organ music, violins & concertinas! Paul is an experienced workshop leader tutoring at Cecil Sharp House on a regular basis, Hands On weekends, Folkworks Summer Schools and Halsway Manor. His favourite colour is no longer pink.

Belshazzar's Feast play at the David Hall, South Petherton on Saturday, December 20th at 8pm. Tickets are £15, available from the website www.thedavidhall.org.uk or by calling 01460 240 340.

Belshazzar's Feast

Jazz on a Christmas Evening with Peter Gill

LOOKING for the perfect way to kick-start the festive season? Jazz on a Christmas Evening is always the answer!

Peter Gill and his swing band are coming to Tacchi-Morris to play an eclectic mix of jazz standards and Christmas gems such as 'White Christmas', 'Santa Claus Is Comin' To Town', 'Baby It's Cold Outside', 'Winter Wonderland' and 'Mr Bojangles' to name but a few! This will be an evening of sublime, cool jazz and blues interlaced with Peter's friendly and witty banter.

Peter Gill

Peter Gill is a Boogie Woogie/Jazz pianist who has performed at Tacchi-Morris Arts Centre many times before, most recently in the summer show Elvis Vs Jerry Lee Lewis, where he played Jerry Lee Lewis. On this occasion he will be joined by nationally acclaimed performers Kim Cypher (saxophones), Wayne Elliott (bass), Michael Croshaw (guitar) and Mike Cypher (drums).

Peter Gill says: "My jazz trio and swing band are an excuse for me to play the type of jazz and swing that I love - standards that were made famous by the likes of Sinatra, Dean Martin, Ella Fitzgerald, Nina Simone and more recently Michael Bublé, Eva Cassidy and Peter Cincotti. Songs written by those supreme composers and lyricists such as Cole Porter, George and Ira Gershwin, Irving Berlin, Jerome Kern, Richard Rodgers and Lorenz Hart."

Peter Gill performs Jazz on a Christmas Evening at Tacchi Morris Arts Centre, Taunton on Friday, December 12th at 7.30pm. Tickets are £15, or £13 concession, from www.tacchi-morris.com or 01823 414141

To advertise in Weekender Life
call Jae Verhaeren on 01297 446153
or email jae@pemedia.co.uk

Diary Dates

FRIDAY DECEMBER 5TH

CREWKERNE: Sequence Dancing at the Victoria Hall, 1.45-4pm. £2pp includes teas and biscuits. Raffle. For more details call 01308 862866 or 01935 415520

FRIDAY DECEMBER 5TH & SATURDAY DEC 6TH

CREWKERNE: CUDOS Christmas Concert, at the Victoria Hall, 7.30 pm each night. Cost £6 to include glass of mulled wine/orange juice and mince pie. Tickets available from www.cudos.org.uk or 01460 74380.

SATURDAY DECEMBER 6TH

MISTERTON: Table Top Sale at Misterton WI Hall, 10.30am-2pm. Variety of stalls - cards, jewellery, bric-a-brac, Christmas and craft goods. Free entry. Light lunches/refreshments available. For more details call 01460 74808

SEAVINGTON ST MARY: Festive Designs to Decorate your Home at Christmas. A demonstration by Angie Blackwell of Cottage Flowers Ilminster. From10am - 12pm at The Millennium Hall, Seavington St Mary. Tickets @ £8.50 IN ADVANCE from Seavington Community Shop and N&D News S. Petherton. Or ring 01460 249522. Tea/coffee and cake included. Proceeds in aid of improvements to the shop and café.

MERRIOTT: "Christmasy" Monthly Market at Merriott social club 10am-1pm. Lots of lovely stalls including fresh produce. Call 07885 424588 for more details.

CHARD: Chard Camera Club Inter club competition night against Lyme Regis at the Uplyme Village Hall.

ASHILL: Ashill School Annual Frost Fayre at the village hall. Games and activities for children, along with a secret present room. Adults can find gifts on the craft stalls, homemade cakes, luxury hamper raffle, Christmas BBQ and more.

DONYATT: Christmas Bazaar at the village hall, 2-5pm. Crafts, tombola, bric-a-brac, cakes, knitwear, cards, books, plants, produce, raffle, Name the Christmas Penguin, refreshments. Everyone welcome.

SUNDAY DECEMBER 7TH

NORTH PERROTT: Christmas Concert with Parnham Voices in St Martin's Church, from 3.30pm. Songs both sacred and secular, ancient and modern, with works by Byrd, Mendelssohn and Rutter and popular carols including 'Ding Dong Merrily', 'Silent Night' and 'Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas' interspersed with seasonal readings. Teas, scones, cakes and mince pies served after the concert. Tickets to include food: adults £8, 17-18 years £4, under 17 years free. For more details call 01460 72883, 76457 or 76214. Proceeds to St Martin's Church Funds.

MONDAY DECEMBER 8TH

MISTERTON: Christmas Bingo for Misterton based organisations at the Village Hall. Doors open 6.30pm, eyes down 7.30pm. Great prizes, raffle, tombola.

CREWKERNE: Traditional Christmas lunches at The Henhayes Community Centre. Please phone 01460 76233 for further details and to reserve your place.

TUESDAY DECEMBER 9TH

CHARD: Chard WI Meeting at 7.30pm at the Baptist Church Hall, Holyrood Street. Visitors and new members welcome. 2nd Tuesday of every month (Excluding August).

CREWKERNE: Bingo at George Reynolds Sports Centre. Doors 6.30pm, eyes down 7.30pm. In aid of Model Engineering.

CHARD: Women's Group of Chard Churches Together are hosting the Annual Carol Service for the group at The Church of the Good Shepherd. Everyone is very welcome. If you are not a churchgoer, but enjoy singing carols, please be assured of a warm welcome. Men folk are also very welcome. Following the Service there will be a hot drink and light refreshments.

CREWKERNE: Tuesday Welcome Group at Henhayes Centre. £1 per session. For people 70/80+ who like to meet other people and enjoy a few activities like painting, pottery, music, quizzes and occasional bingo. Transport can be arranged and a cooked meal can be purchased from £3.50. Take-away meals are available.

CREWKERNE: Computer group at Henhayes Centre - if you need some help to get started or a question answered please pop down to the Centre between 10am and 12noon.

MERRIOTT: Christmas Bingo at the Tithe Barn. Doors 7pm, eyes down 7.30pm. Great prizes. Proceeds to Merriott Church.

CHARD: Film: 'Belle' at the Guildhall, Fore Street, doors 7pm, film 7.30pm. All admission £5.

WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 10TH

CREWKERNE: Christmas Bingo at Henhayes Centre – Lots of lovely prizes – "eyes down" at 2.30pm.

THURSDAY DECEMBER 11TH

CREWKERNE: George Reynolds Centre Christmas Fair, 5.30-8pm.

CHARD: Chard Royal Naval Association Social quiz evening at the Conservative Club, High Street at 7.30pm. Visitors looking to maybe join the Association will be made most welcome to attend this friendly, humorous occasion with like minded members.

CREWKERNE: Over 50s Keep Fit at Henhayes Centre. Class begins at 10am and costs £2.50 for members and £3.50 for non-members.

FRIDAY DECEMBER 12TH

CHARD: 'Blast from the past 2 - Horns and Strings by Jonathan Weeks'. The multi talented Jonathan will play trumpets, cornetts, slide trumpet, horns, lyre, harp, citole, psaltery, rebec, hurdy-gurdy, tromba marina, lute, and others, a medieval musical cornucopia. 7.30pm at Manor Court Primary School (opposite Sainsburys). Refreshments, new members and guests very welcome. Free school-yard parking

TATWORTH: Film: Fading Gigolo (cert 15) at Tatworth Memorial Hall.Doors 7.15pm, film 8pm. Organised by T&F Movies. For more details call 01460 220198.

CREWKERNE: Traditional Christmas lunches at The Henhayes Community Centre. Please phone 01460 76233 for further details and to reserve your place.

CLAPTON: Lunch club at Clapton & Wayford Village Hall, mid-day for 12.30pm start. All welcome, but please book in advance – particularly as this is a special Christmas meal - by phoning 01460 77057.

CREWKERNE: Sequence Dancing at the Victoria Hall, 1.45-4pm. £2pp includes teas and biscuits. Raffle. For more details call 01308 862866 or 01935 415520

SATURDAY DECEMBER 13TH

CHARD: Chard Camera Club will be holding their annual Christmas dinner at the Golden Fleece, Perry Street, Chard at 7pm for 7.30pm where the group will sit down to fun and frolics along with festive sustenance.

HINTON ST GEORGE: 'Flix in the Sticks' presents 'Belle' (12A), in the Village Hall at 7.30 pm. Tickets £5 in advance from the Village Shop and Dorothy's Tea Room, or, £5.50 on the door. To reserve Tickets please contact 01460 72906

MERRIOTT: Carols & Classic by Candlelight at All Saints Church. Mince pies and refreshments before the concert. 7pm for refreshments, 7.30pm for concert start. Tickets £7 available from Osbornes Store (Broadway) or by calling 07870 404631 / 01460 76360. Book early to avoid disappointment.

MONDAY DECEMBER 15TH

MISTERTON: Christmas Bingo for Misterton based organisations at the Village Hall. Doors open 6.30pm, eyes down 7.30pm. Great prizes, raffle, tombola.

CREWKERNE: Crewkerne Awareness December Meeting.
Guest Speaker Fiona Pinney on the topic 'Angel & Unicorn Healing'. At the Meeting Room, Unitarian Chapel.
Time: 7pm-9.30pm. Admission £2.50 (Includes Festive Refreshments). Everyone Welcome. Further details telephone Anastasia 01460 351019.

TUESDAY DECEMBER 16TH

CREWKERNE: Christmas Bingo at George Reynolds Sports Centre. Doors 6.30pm, eyes down 7.30pm. In aid of Crewkerne Football Club.

CREWKERNE: Traditional Christmas lunches at The Henhayes Community Centre. Please phone 01460 76233 for further details and to reserve your place.

WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 17TH

TATWORTH: Stained Glass Workshop at Brewer Room Tatworth Memorial Hall, 1.30-4.30pm. Organised by Tatworth & Forton Active Living. For more details call 01460 220339

THURSDAY DECEMBER 18TH

CHARD: Chard Camera Club will meet at 7.30pm in the Baptist Church Hall for their in house competition evening . The subjects being judged are;-
Special Subject Prints Nature, Special subject DPIs Flight plus the usual open subjects in both prints and DPIs. The judge for the evening will be Sheila Hacocks.

CHARD: Chard Royal Naval Association will be meeting away from home as they will be having their annual
Christmas dinner at the Golden Fleece, Perry Street Chard meeting at 7pm for meal a7.30pm.

FRIDAY DECEMBER 19TH

CREWKERNE: Sequence Dancing at the Victoria Hall, 1.45-4pm. £2pp includes teas and biscuits. Raffle. For more details call 01308 862866 or 01935 415520

UPLYME: Christmas Whist Drive & Raffle at Uplyme Village Hall, 7pm for 7.30pm. £4 per head, including refreshments. All proceeds to Weldmar Hospicecare Trust. We would love to see as many people as possible.

FRIDAY JANUARY 2ND

CREWKERNE: Sequence Dancing at the Victoria Hall, 1.45-4pm. £2pp includes teas and biscuits. Raffle. For more details call 01308 862866 or 01935 415520

A Sprinkling of Christmas Magic at Ilminster Arts Centre!

VISITORS to Ilminster Arts Centre are in for a treat in the run up to Christmas as the venue hosts 'Christmas Magic' - an enticing exhibition of top quality contemporary crafts by a range of makers - the majority of whom are completely new to the Arts Centre.

Co-organiser Caroline Mornement says 'Welcoming so many new craftspeople to Ilminster Arts Centre will give an exciting, fresh twist to our regular Christmas crafts exhibition, formerly known as The Christmas Collection. We have carefully selected artists and makers to create a display of beautifully made items that are ideal for special Christmas presents.'

Those who are exhibiting include Lesley Fawcett (silk scarves and batik prints), Jackie Williams (pure wool scarves), Liz Oliva (hats), Debby Kirby (contemporary bow ties), Rachel Sumner (driftwood boats, painted silk ties and scarves), Kelly Fletcher (Jolly Red embroidery kits), Karen Young (artist's books and brooches), Jane Paterson (artist's books), Helen Edwards (pewter book marks, textile iPhone cases and small boxes), Carole Watson (vintage brooches), Claire Hall (lampwork glass jewellery), Rachel Reilly (wire jewellery), Holly Webb (silver jewellery), Lorraine Houlden (jewellery and rush baskets). Andy Millar (wood-turned pens and other desk top items), Clementine's Gift Shop (hand-marbled books and boxes), Buffy Fletcher (knitted clothing), Cathy King (lino cut prints), Judy Crosher (porcelain bowls), Rodney Lawrence (ceramics featuring his signature bird decoration), Pauline Zelinski (ceramic bowls and platters),Nicola Werner (majolica-inspired pots and tiles), Colin Clements (carved wooden birds),Robert Race (automata), and Heather Mundy-Castle (hand painted wrapping paper).

The Christmas Magic Exhibition takes place at Ilminster Arts Centre at The Meeting House until Tuesday, December 23rd, open 9.30am-4.30pm Monday to Friday, and 9.30am-2.30pm on Saturdays. Admission is free.

For more details call 01460 55783 or visit the website at www.themeetinghouse.org.uk

CINEMA LISTINGS

Friday, Dec 5th - Thursday, Dec 11th

ALL LISTINGS ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE

YEOVIL CINEWORLD

Yeo Leisure Park, Old Station Rd

Tel: 0871 200 2000

www.cineworld.co.uk

The Hunger Games: The Mockingjay - Part 1 12A
Daily: 14.10, 17.00, 20.00, 21.00
plus Sat: 11.00am

Paddington PG
Daily: 14.00, 16.20, 18.40, 20.40
plus Sat & Sun: 11.40, 12.50, 15.15

Horrible Bosses 2 12A
Daily: 12.40, 15.20, 18.10, 20.50

The Imitation Game 12A
Fri, Mon-Wed: 12.30, 15.10, 17.50, 20.30
Sat & Sun: 17.40, 20.30
Thu: 12.30, 15.10, 20.30

Nativity 3: Dude, Where's My Donkey U
Sat: 10.00, 11.20, 12.20, 14.20, 15.00
Sun: 10.00, 11.20, 12.20, 15.00
Mon-Thu: 17.25

The Hobbit: The Battle of the Five Armies 12A
Daily: 13.20, 16.40, 20.00
plus Sat & Sun: 10.00am

Walking with Dinosaurs U
Sat & Sun: 10.20am

The House of Magic U
Sat & Sun: 10.10am

Frozen Sing-a-long PG
Sat & Sun: 10.00am

Interstellar 12A
Fri, Wed: 13.40, 19.40
Sat, Sun: 19.40
Tue: 13.40, Thu: 14.20

Penguins of Madagascar U
Daily: 13.50, 16.10, 17.15, 18.30, 19.40
plus Sat & Sun: 11.30, 12.30, 14.50

Get Santa U
Fri, Sat, Mon-Wed: 12.10, 14.40, 17.10
Sun: 11.30, 14.40, 17.10
Thu: 12.10, 14.40, 18.00

Black Sea 15
Fri, Mon-Thu: 12.40, 15.30, 18.20, 21.10
Sat & Sun: 15.30, 18.20, 21.10

St Vincent 12A
Fri, Mon-Thu: 12.50, 15.25, 17.55, 20.20
Sat & Sun: 13.00, 17.55, 20.20

TAUNTON ODEON

Heron Gate, Riverside

Tel: 0871 22 44 007

www.odeon.co.uk

Frozen Sing-a-long PG
Sat & Sun: 11.00am

Get Santa U
Fri, Mon-Thu: 14.40, 17.10
Sat & Sun: 12.10, 14.40, 17.10

Horrible Bosses 2 15
Fri-Wed: 20.45, Thu: 19.45

Interstellar 12A
Fri-Wed: 19.45

Mr Turner 12A
Fri, Mon-Thu: 12.50

Nativity 3: Dude, Where's My Donkey U
Fri, Mon-Thu: 16.00
Sat & Sun: 10.30, 13.00, 16.00

Paddington PG
Fri, Mon-Wed: 13.00, 14.00, 15.20, 16.15, 17.40, 18.30, 20.10
Sat & Sun: 10.40, 11.40, 13.00, 14.00, 15.20, 16.15, 17.40, 18.30, 20.10
Thu: 13.00, 14.00, 15.20, 16.20, 17.40, 20.10

St Vincent 12A
Daily: 18.15, 20.40

The Hunger Games: Mockingjay - part 1 12A
Fri-Sun, Wed: 13.00, 14.00, 16.00, 17.00, 19.00, 20.00
Mon, Tue: 13.00, 14.00, 16.00, 17.00, 20.00
Thu: 13.00, 14.00, 17.00, 19.00, 20.00

The Imitation Game 12A
Daily: 18.30, 21.00

The Penguins of Madagascar 3D U
Daily: 14.20, 16.40, 21.15
plus Sat & Sun: 10.25am

The Penguins of Madagascar 2D U
Daily: 13.20, 15.40, 19.00
Sat & Sun: 11.30am

This week's new cinema releases

ST VINCENT 12A
A YOUNG boy whose parents have just divorced finds an unlikely friend and mentor in the misanthropic, bawdy, hedonistic war veteran who lives next door.
Stars Bill Murrawy, Melissa McCarthy and Naomi Watts.

PENGUINS OF MADAGASCAR PG
SKIPPER, Kowalski, Rico and Private join forces with undercover organization The North Wind to stop the villainous Dr. Octavius Brine from destroying the world as we know it.
Animated adventure fun from the Madagascar franchise, with voices from Tom McGrath, Chris Miller and Christopher Knights

THE PYRAMID 15
AN archaeological team attempts to unlock the secrets of a lost pyramid only to find themselves hunted by an insidious creature.
Stars Ashley Hinshaw, James Buckley and Denis O'Hare.

STRETCH 15
A HARD-LUCK limo driver struggling to go straight and pay off a debt to his bookie takes on a job with a crazed passenger whose sought-after ledger implicates some seriously dangerous criminals.
Stars Patrick Wilson, Ed Helms and James Badge Dale

TUSK 15
WHEN podcaster Wallace Bryton goes missing in the backwoods of Manitoba while interviewing a mysterious seafarer named Howard Howe, his best friend Teddy and girlfriend Allison team with an ex-cop to look for him.
Stars Justin Long, Michael Parks and Haley Joel Osment

Tree of Light Christmas celebrations with Crewkerne Lions and Antiques Bazaar

CHRISTMAS is fast approaching and it is so easy to get caught up with the annual preparatons. For many it is also a sad tme as we remember those who are no longer with us. Crewkerne Lions Club hopes that in some way this Community Project helps you remember those loved ones in a positve way.

You are invited to sponsor a light on the 'Tree of Light' which will be placed at the entrance to The Antques Bazaar, Kit Hill. All money raised will be used to support projects within the local community of Crewkerne and surrounding villages.

The Club are extremely grateful for the support of Anthony Bucke and the Antques Bazaar and hope that the community project will be here in Crewkerne for years to come.

Our stunning 18ft locally grown tree will be lit on Friday 5th December at 6.15pm, followed by carols around the foot of the tree.

Students from Maiden Beech School will then arrive by donkey cart at around 6.45pm, and will perform their own carols. Finally there will be a short dedication service.

Antiques Bazaar will remain open throughout the evening for shopping and browsing, and The Home Bakery will be serving seasonal refreshments.

MERRY CHRISTMAS!

All proceeds will be used to support projects within the local community. The Club have recently purchased a life-saving defbrillator for £2,700, which will be placed on the outside wall of West One Surgery to use at any time in an emergency.

Crewkerne Lions Club has served the communites of the town and local villages since 1982. Annual events include the Duck Race, Fun weekend, Horse and Dog Show, and Christmas Draw, all raising valuable funds which are used locally.

As well as being a local organisation, the Lions Club of Crewkerne is part of Lions Clubs Internatonal, and at the time of disasters anywhere in the world, is ready to get out there and shake a bucket raising funds.

For more details visit the websites:

www.crewkernelions.org.uk or www.lionsclubsinternatonal.org

If you feel you would like to know more about Lions and possible membership please contact Crewkerne Lions Club either by the website or by calling 01460 72305.

Tree of Light

Sponsor a light in memory of a loved one

Supported by Anthony Bucke and Antiques Bazaar

The tree will be lit at Antiques Bazaar on Friday 5th December at 6.15pm

Those we love don't go away,
They walk beside us every day,
Unseen, unheard, but always near,
Still loved, still missed, and very dear

CREWKERNE LIONS CLUB

Tree of Light

(Minimum donation £5)

Please complete the form below and return with your donation to:

Lion Lesley Chudley, Clapton Farm, Clapton, Crewkerne, TA18 8PR Tel: 01460 72305 or email: lelseychudley@hotmail.co.uk

Your name .....

Address .....

.....

Postcode .....

Tel: .....

Email: .....

Tree of Light in Memory of

Name(s) .....

Amount enclosed £ .....

Please make cheque payable to Crewkerne Lions Club

Gift Aid - I am a Taxpayer and want Crewkerne Lions Club to reclaim on my donation.

Please tick ☐

Signature _____

Your name will be kept on computer but will not be passed to any other organisation.

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HORTON £385 000

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ILMINSTER £164 950

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CREWKERNE £125 000

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Sitting Room – Kitchen/Breakfast Room
Two Double Bedrooms – Bathroom
Rear Courtyard Garden – Brick Built Utility Cupboard
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Crewkerne Office 01460 78900

BROADWAY OIEO £499 950

SPACIOUS DETACHED BUNGALOW

Entrance Hall – Kitchen/Family Room – Conservatory/Garden Room –Office/Study – Utility – Cloakroom – Sitting Room 2nd Kitchen Study – Bathroom – 6 Bedrooms - En-Suite Family Bathroom – OFCH – Triple Carport Large Workshop Gardens Approx 0.6 of an acre

Ilminster Office 01460 259699

ILMINSTER £139 950

SPACIOUS SEMI-DETACHED HOUSE

Hall – Sitting Room – Kitchen/Dining Room
Boiler Room – Cloakroom - Conservatory
2 Bedrooms – Bathroom – GFCH – Gardens
No Onward Chain

Ilminster Office 01460 259699

HORTON £339 950

A SPACIOUS FAMILY HOUSE

Hall – Sitting Rm – Kitchen/Dining Rm - Clkrm
Master Bedroom – En-Suite – 2 Further Bedrms
Bathroom – Garage/Office – Gardens – Driveway

Ilminster Office 01460 259699

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Crewkerne Office 01460 78900

CREWKERNE £399 950

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Mature Gardens - Outbuilding - Double Garage

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ILMINSTER £650 PCM

THREE BEDROOM FAMILY HOME WITH PARKING

Entrance Hall – Sitting Room with open fireplace – Dining Room Kitchen – Three Bedrooms – Bathroom – Good Storage – uPVC Double-Glazed Windows – Night Storage Heaters – Single Garage Driveway – Front and Rear Gardens

Ilminster Office 01460 78900

ASHILL £199 950

THREE BEDROOM HOUSE

Porch – Entrance Hall – Sitting Room – Kitchen
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Front, Side and Rear Gardens – Workshop – Garage

Ilminster Office 01460 259699

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MERRIOTT £595 PCM

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The Weekender in
Crewkerne
Chard
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View From Newspapers

A vacancy has occurred for a

PART-TIME SUB EDITOR

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Must be proficient in QuarkXpress and Adobe Photoshop and be able to work to strict deadlines.

Based in Lyme Regis.

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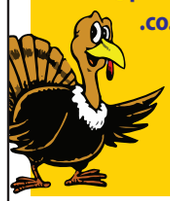

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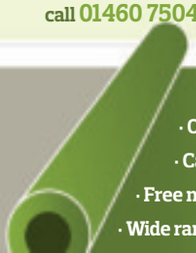

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Euro NCAP awards maximum rating of 5 stars to the new Passat

- *Highest grade for Passat and Passat Estate*
- *Passengers and pedestrians are well protected in the event of an emergency*

EURO NCAP (New Car Assessment Programme) has been considered to be the most important standard for vehicle safety since 1997. The requirements were tightened again this year. The new Passat passed the demanding NCAP test series with excellent results – and thanks to a world-class security package consisting of an optimised body structure, a highly effective integrated seatbeltand airbag system and innovative assistance systems.

The overall safety rating of five stars for the new Passat is composed of the results in four sub-areas: occupantprotection for adults and children, pedestrian protection and security support.

During the extensive investigations on occupant protection for adults, which include a head-on crash test against an aluminium barrier (at 64 km/h and 40per cent overlap) as well asa side impact (at 50 km/h in the vehicle structure) and a pole side impact (at 29 km/h), the Passat received 85 per cent of the maximum rating.

The new Passat also performed excellently in the important area of child protection and reached over 87 per cent of the attainable point total due to the standard ISOFIX andtop tether child seat anchors.

In addition, constructive details of the pedestrian protection in the new Passat were graded; these reduce the risk of injury to pedestrians. These include, for example, the design of the bumper and the bonnet.

In the Euro NCAP assessment of the safety systems, the safety-optimised head restraints, which minimise the risk of neck injuries in a rear-end collision, and seat beltwarning systems for all seats were evaluated. The "Front Assist" surroundings monitoring system including the City Emergency Braking, which isavailable from the Comfortline (SE in the UK) upwards and was incorporated inthe safety systems category, were also assessed positively.

The new Passat has been available now in Germany for a few weeks and hasa wide range of series safety equipment. These include driver and front passenger airbags (with front passenger airbag deactivation) and a head airbag system for front and rear passengers including side airbags. In addition, the new Passat has standard series systems on board such asElectronic Stability Control (ESC) including ABS with brake assistant, Automatic Post-Collision Braking System, Tyre Monitoring Indicator and Driver Alert System.

The Volkswagen offer is rounded off by a variety of optionally available assistance systems, which will help to avoid collisions or reduce accident severity: These include PreCrash preventive occupant protection, Traffic Jam Assist, Emergency Assist as well as Trailer Assist (including trailer stabilisation).

▲ New Volkswagen Passat

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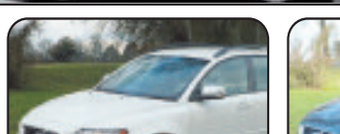

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weekenderwheels
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NEW LOOK FOR THE SSANGYONG KORANDO CS & CSX COMMERCIAL

SSANGYONG is adding two new low priced light commercial models to its Korando range - the 2-wheel drive CS and 4-wheel drive CSX.

Ideal as a small delivery van, go-anywhere vehicle for service engineers or simply a light commercial to ensure you reach your destination whatever the weather or terrain, the Korando Commercial makes the perfect business partner.

And with prices from just £12,995 (ex VAT) for the two wheel drive CS model and a 5 year limitless mileage warranty, it is also a sound business decision.

SsangYong Korando CSX commercial

The Giugiaro designed Korando is already noted for its great value, high level of equipment, interior space and 2 tonne towing capability - the Korando SE won The Caravan Club Towcar of the Year Award 2014 for vehicles under £16,000 - and now its commercial derivative, the Commercial van, has also been given a makeover inside and out, as well as enhanced driving refinement.

Externally, the front receives an all-new treatment that includes a slimmed down, black mesh radiator grille, contemporary projection headlights and LED daytime running lights, while the interior has also been given a significant re-design that includes a completely new dashboard. Great advances in reducing NVH (noise, vibration & harshness) have also been made.

The new Korando Commercial is powered by a modern yet well-proven 2.0-litre Euro 5 turbo diesel engine. There is a choice of two wheel drive or 4x4, with prices from just £12,995 (ex VAT) for the two wheel drive CS and £14,295 (ex VAT) for the four wheel drive CSX.

The completely flat load area is accessed via a high lifting tailgate or two side doors, and packs a useful 1,312 cubic litre load volume. There's a load deck length of 152.5cm, and 96.5cm between the wheel arches. The car also carries a very practical 433 kg payload, and willingly pulls a 2 tonne trailer.

Under the bonnet, the Korando CS is powered by a new lower CO2 version of the Korando power unit. Developing 149ps@4,000rpm, this advanced 2.0 litre four cylinder turbo diesel engine produces 360Nm of torque with CO2 emissions reduced to 147g/km (CS) and 157g/km (CSX).

And for when the weather turns nasty and the going gets tough, the new CSX features an impressive Torque on Demand 4x4 system and is equipped with ESP with Hill Start Assist, and mud & snow tyres as standard.

The low price doesn't mean basic though, and drivers will enjoy the luxury touches of electric windows and tinted glass as well as a leather covered steering wheel and gear shift, cruise control and an MP3 CD & RDS radio with iPod & Bluetooth connectivity, remote audio controls and six speakers.

"The new Korando is the third light commercial vehicle (LCV) to join the SsangYong line-up, and offers a highly practical and affordable vehicle for those with specific business needs," said Paul Williams, CEO of SsangYong Motor UK. "Highly competitively priced, extremely well equipped and backed by a 5 year limitless mileage warranty, SsangYong is the only manufacturer to have that much confidence in its commercial vehicles to give its customers this level of reassurance.

The SsangYong Korando CSX

"SsangYong has a growing reputation for producing extremely competent off-road vehicles, and the new Korando Commercial builds on this pedigree. It's an honest, reliable and highly capable LCV, and pound for pound will outclass many more expensive rivals."

The Korando CSX features a Torque on Demand four wheel drive system which constantly monitors the level of grip available and distributes power to the wheels that need it most. Under normal driving conditions the engine's torque is directed to the front wheels so the car runs with the efficiency of a family hatchback. However, if the front tyres begin to lose traction, power is automatically fed to the rear wheels to ensure safe, stable and dependable progress is maintained with grip from all four wheels. An all-wheel drive lock mode is also provided to ensure a 50/50 spread of torque between the front and rear wheels at speeds up to 25mph, essential for when low speed traction and control is needed such as when driving up a slippery track or off a muddy building site towing a work trailer.

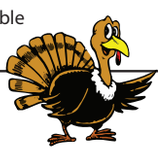
All models in the SsangYong range are covered by a best-in-class 5 year limitless mileage warranty. Designed to be totally transparent and give customers complete peace of mind, 'limitless' means just that: not a maximum mileage condition that some brands impose in their small print. All the major mechanical components are covered including wheel bearings, suspension joints and bushes, steering joints, shock absorbers and even the audio system. Wearable components such as clutch discs and brake friction materials which could have their life reduced by poor driving are covered for one year or 12,000 miles, and the battery and paintwork for three years.

SsangYong cars are manufactured in South Korea by SsangYong Motor, which is 73 per cent owned by the Indian engineering conglomerate Mahindra & Mahindra, and imported into the UK by SsangYong Motor UK. Established in 1954 it is Korea's oldest vehicle manufacturer and only 4x4 and SUV specialist producer.

There are currently some 60 SsangYong dealers covering England, Northern Ireland, Scotland and Wales, with new locations being added to the network all the time.

- **Korando CS & CSX - 2 & 4 wheel drive, from £12,995 ex VAT**
- **Korando Sports pick up - 4 wheel drive, from £15,042 ex VAT**
- **Rexton W CSX - 4 wheel drive, from £18,495 ex VAT**

tFurther information is available from: www.ssangyonggb.co.uk



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Weekender sport

Send your reports, results and tables to howard@pemedia.co.uk or call 01297 446152 (deadline: Wednesday 10am)

rugby round up

Devon mission ahead as Chard target first win

AFTER a weekend off Chard RFC return to action with a full programme scheduled for tomorrow.

The 1st xv travel to Rackerhayes to face mid-tablers Newton Abbott in National League Three which will be no doubt another hard match. Kick-off is 2.15pm

Chard have played well for long periods in virtually all games this season but have often started games poorly and given away early points.

So they will be hoping to get stuck in from the off tomorrow.

The 2nd xv are at home against bottom-of-the-table Midsomer Norton in Somerset Division One - again, kick-off is 2.15pm

Meanwhile, the 3rd xv travel to play Minehead 3rds with both teams looking to move into the black in the points column in the Somerset Division Three.

Finally, the Colts team are at home to Weston.

Elsewhere, both Crewkerne teams are on the road.

The first XV head for Castle Cary while the 2nds visit Midsomer Norton IVs

Nat League 3 SW	Pld	+/-	Pts
Redingsensians	11	262	49
Exmouth	11	222	47
Brixham	11	65	43
Hornets	11	115	41
Bracknell	11	98	37
Newton Abbot	11	15	34
Old Centralians	11	-3	28
Oxford Harlequins	11	-36	23
Bournemouth	11	-76	20
Weston-super-Mare	11	-82	17
Barnstaple	11	-103	16
Old Redcliffians	11	-123	15
Old Patesians	11	-109	15
CHARD	11	-245	2

Somerset One	Pld	+/-	Pts
Hornets II	10	266	48
Chew Valley II	10	349	46
Bridgwater & Albion II	11	221	44
Old Sulians	11	127	35
Bristol Barbarians	11	129	35
Castle Cary	11	-1	33
Cheddar Valley	11	-19	32
CREWKERNE	11	140	31
Keynsham II	11	-62	21
Yatton II	11	-205	18
CHARD II	11	-171	14
Wellington II	11	-102	11
North Petherton II	11	-123	7
Midsomer Norton II	11	-549	7

Somerset Three	Pld	+/-	Pts
MARTOCK	8	191	30
Frome III	6	121	28
Wells III	7	90	20
Yatton III	3	71	14
CREWKERNE II	5	-29	4
North Petherton III	3	67	3
CHARD III	5	-186	0
Minehead Barbarians III	4	-162	0
Castle Cary II	6	-140	-1
Midsomer Norton IV	3	-23	-10

THERE were 58 international caps worth on show experience at Chard Rugby Club recently.

Former Bath and England duo

■ **INTERNATIONAL QUALITY:** Lee Mears (left) and Matt Banaham pictured before their recent coaching session at Chard RFC.

Matt Banahan (16 caps) and Lee Mears (42 caps) conducted a session with the club's mini's and juniors before putting the senior players through their paces.

Wing centre Banahan (27) is a current member of the Bath squad while hooker Mears (42) retired from the game back in 2013.

jack high bowls news

Extra end cup victory for Ilminster pair

ILMINSTER
by Des Maull

ILMINSTER had mixed fortunes in the last week with the men playing DORCHESTER in the Denny Cup on Saturday and losing on all rinks and by 21 shots (56-77).

Details: Home, Des Maull, Colin Spurway, Rowland Garland and Peter Mattravers 14 C Gifford 17; Tony Peterson, Martin Cornelius, Bev Brister and Jason Miles 18 N Voss 24;

Away, Andy Williams, Lawrence Symes, Kevin Hamilton and Will Anderson 12 G Sprackien 23; Eric Keitch, Roger Lench, Ian Lightfoot and Mark Denslow 12 D Curtis 14.

The ladies had a comprehensive 23-5 win in the over 50s Triples against St ANDREWS WSM.

Ilminster team Heather Grinter, Angie Thompson & Maureen Mitchell.

An Ilminster men's pair of G Morris & Ken Parker held their nerve to win with with a six on the extra end after the game at St ANDREWS WSM had ended level at 21-21 in the National over 60s pairs. They now play Minehead in the next round,

Last Sunday an Ilminster mixed pair of Heather Grinter & Steve Turner played in the defeated S.Graham & P.Denslow with Ilminster 22-8 in the NATIONAL PAIRS competition.

CHARD
by Sandra Sumpter

IN the EAST DEVON LEAGUE Chard A's poor run of form continued at home against HEMYOCK B when they went down by 6-2 in games and by 42 shots to 53. Their two wins both came in the singles matches.

In this week's MILFORD & DORMOR MIXED TRIPLES League Hurricanes were playing catch up through most of their match with the Magpies but at the mid-way stage the score was 6-6 each.

But Magpies then pulled away and took the match 13–10 despite Hurricanes winning the last two ends.

Harlequins unbeaten record ended with a 14-11 reverse in a tight match against the Royals.

After nine ends the score was tied at 8-8 but then Royals pulled ahead and although Harlequins took the last end it wasn't enough.

CREWKERNE SHORT-MAT
by Gordon Bodily

ON Wednesday, Novemebr 26th 10 members travelled to MERRIOTT SMBC to play a mixed friendly.

Scores; Dave Charnick, Tricia Harris & Bill Green 12-7. Mikki Simmonds, Jean Lane & Stuart Gould 3-19. Gwen Saunders, Carol Thackaberry &Gordon Bodily 9-7. Stuart Gould, Jean Lane & Tom Moll 7-21.

Final score: Merriott 54 Crewkerne 31.

SOUTH PETHERTON
by Tony Peterson

SOUTH Petherton Bowling club held its annual presentation evening on Saturday, November 22nd at Ilminster Bowling Club. The presentations were made as follows;

Ladies 4 wood, Winner; Diane Lester, R/U Net Peterson

Ladies 2 Wood, Winner; Sue Donovan, R/U Diane Lester

Mens 4 wood, Winner; Tony Peterson, R/U Peter Hutchings

Mens 2 wood, Winner; Tony Peterson, R/U Steve Lester

Handicap Singles, Winner; Peter Mottram, R/U Liam McSweeney.

Club Pairs, Winners; Peter Mottram & Norman Pipe with Martin Cornelius & John Moon runners-up.

3 wood pairs, Winners - Martin Cornelius & Norman Pipe with Steve Lester & Cliff Parsons runners up.

Final day Pairs, Winners - Sue Donovan & Sue Boer with Colin Harris & Roger Neve runners-up.

Wednesday umbrella, Winner - Anna Eckland, R/U Bill McSweeney.

■ **GLITTERING:** The winners and runners-up at the South Petherton BC annual awards.

■ **SILVERWARE:** Prize winners and runners up for the 2014 outdoor competitions at Ilminster Bowls Club.

■ **TEAM WORK:** Members of Ilminster Bowls Club's Turnbull Cup winning squad received the trophy from the Somerset County Bowls President Barrie Davis (fifth from left). Others pictured; Mark Denslow, Jason Miles Will Anderson, Matt Hamilton (Team Manager) Kevin Hamilton and Des Maull (Club Captain).

skittles

CREWKERNE

Division One	Pld	Pts
Lost Boys	9	87
Coachmen	9	80
Head Hunters	9	70
Super Sexy Six	9	62
Royal Oak Drimp	9	57
Football Club	9	55
Stray Cats	9	48
King Willy Dogs	9	47
Mighty Ducks	9	45
Raptors	9	38
Rollers	9	38
Perrott Monkeys	9	21

Division Two	Pld	Pts
Fryers	9	75
Loud n Proud	8	67
Chis Colts	8	57
Brewers Bees	7	56
Fuddlers	8	47
Acorns	8	47
Skimmers	8	40
Concorde	7	40
Rug Rats	8	32
Muppets	8	23
Merriott Fixers	7	20

Division Three	Pld	Pts
Hill Billies	9	82
Pinbusters	9	80
Sports 92	9	78
Oakley Doakleys	9	69
Beer Leg Boys	9	55
Willy Low Flyers	9	55
No Name Yet	9	51
Ugly Ducklings	9	49
Sandbaggers	9	46
Likely Lads	9	37
Rotary	9	33
Kings Men	9	13

ILMINSTER

NOMINATION CUP

DIVISION ONE: Flying Turkeys 249-11 (M.Brown, I.Masters, M.Williams 34, J.Thompson, S.Spurway, T.Towill 29) Bell A 170-1 (Leroy Male 30, N.Maidment 3), Nomads 310-10 (A.Peckham 54, R.Barnes, L.Bond 32) Rockey's Rollers 267-2 (F.Steed 38, T.Clapp 29), Wyndham Clangers 224-2 (N.Phillipes 36, C.Butland 19) Crown Crusaders 249-10 (R.Sims 45, S.,Lee 20).

DIVISION TWO: Ashill Boys 229-1 (B.Smart 48, D.Jay 12) Flying Turkerys AllStars 233-11 (J.House, A.Anderson 37, D.Dabinett 20), Ilton Choppers 206-1 (S.Ball 33, M.Farwell 16) Hatch Beagles 223-11 (D.Hutchins 38, A.Stone 20), Hatch Eggs 180-8 (G.Knight 33, R.Honeyball 15) Bell Broadway 179-4 (T.Bishop 37, P,Lavis 12), Royal Oak Faces 244-11 (D.Whaites, D.Manley 49, A.Male, S.Pitt 22) Ashill Inn 181-1 (L.Woodland 37, VJ Woodland 10), Flying Turkeys AllStars 231-11 (J.House 42, A.Woodard, A.Anderson 18) Hatch Eggs 163-1 (C.Deserve 32, P.Earp 13).

Division One	Pld	Pts
Flying Turkeys	4	37
Nomads	4	33
Cricketers	3	22
Crown Crusaders	3	20
Rockey's Rollers	3	20
Bell A	3	19
Crown Royals	3	15
Wyndham Warriors	3	7
Wyndham Clangers	4	7

Division Two	Pld	Pts
Flying Turkeys AS	4	45
Bell Broadway	4	27
Hatch Beagles	4	25
Royal Oak Faces	4	24
Ashill Boys	3	21
Ashill Inn	3	21
Ilton Choppers	3	12
Hatch Eggs	3	11
Kingshead	3	5

LOCAL FOOTBALL ROUND UP

with Howard Larcombe
twitter @HowardLarcombe

Twin finals for Shepton Beauchamp

Combe through to festive final - Barrington continue silverware hunt

Wellington A-A Chard Town
Toolstation Division One
CHARD Town's visit to Wellington for the local derby last Saturday was abandoned after 75 minutes with the ground shrouded in a thick blanket of fog.

The referee called a halt to proceedings with the hosts leading 2-1.

Radstock Town 2 Chard Town 0
Toolstation Division One att: 41
THE Robins' winless run was extended to six matches as hosts Radstock Town completed a league double on Tuesday evening.

Adam Fricker's side have no fixture tomorrow.

SOMERSET LEAGUE
ILMINSTER TOWN went down to their eighth successive away defeat last Saturday.

But manager Darren Manley was encouraged by a battling display by his depleted squad despite going down 4-0 at league leaders Shirehampton.

The Blues are in Somerset Senior cup action tomorrow at Division One (east) outfit Welton Rovers Reserves with a place in the quarter-finals at stake.

There was better news from COMBE ST NICHOLAS who moved back up into third spot in Division One (west) with Harry Boddington, Matt Brown and Chris Warry on target in a 3-0 win at bottom-of-the-table Weston St Johns.

With Winsombe and Worle both in cup-action tomorrow The Saints could go joint top with a win over visitors Clevedon Utd (2pm ko).

DEVON & EXETER LEAGUE
Chard Town Reserves 1 Newtown 2
CHARD made a bright enough start and put their opponents under pressure straight from the off *writes Ian Hallett*.

And when Dan Anjos was brought down in the 12th minute as he ran into the area, it looked as though this early exertion had paid off.

But instead of pointing to the penalty spot, referee Phil Bialyk seemed unaware of the challenge and allowed play to continue.

A minute later Newtown broke from their own half and a mistake by Dan Aplin gifted the ball to Dale O'Donoghue who slammed it into the net from 12 yards.

Ten minutes later Aplin appeared to have atoned for his error as he won the ball on the half way line and launched a long-range effort over the keeper and into the net. But once again the referee upset the Robins' supporters by firstly awarding a goal and then, after consulting the Newtown linesman, changing his mind and awarding the visitors a free-kick.

The remainder of the half was evenly contested with home keeper Dale Wood's goal seldom coming under any threat.

◆ **WINNER:** Aaron Sweet's late goal earned Shepton Beauchamp a Cup Final place.

Using the slope to their advantage, Newtown increased their lead within two minutes of the restart as O'Donoghue struck his second goal of the afternoon.

As the visitors pushed men forward in an attempt to extend their lead, the Chard defence were forced onto the back foot, but the makeshift back four, that was well-marshalled by the experienced duo of Matt Corrick and Rob Stubbins dealt with everything that came their way.

With their confidence growing, the home side started to create a number of scoring chances of their own and came close to reducing the arrears on a number of occasions.

They eventually pulled a goal back with five minutes remaining when Callum Mooney's corner kick found Kieran Bailey whose first time shot from the edge of the area flashed past the keeper and into the net.

Chard: *Dale Wood, Matt Corrick (Hung Dang 75), Lewis Fisher (Jordan Chant 78), Dan Aplin, Rob Stubbins, Luke Jackson, Callum Mooney. Kieran Bailey, Scott Jakeman, Adam Tovey, Dan Anjos.*

The Chard second-string have a busy weekend ahead with the visit of Clutton for a Somerset Senior Cup-tie tomorrow (1.45pm ko).

This is followed by another run-out on Zembard Lane on Sunday morning (11am ko) when Moretonhmapstead are the visitors in the Axminster Hospital Cup competition.

After last week's superb result ILMINSTER TOWN RESERVES came crashing back down to earth as they were well beaten at fellow strugglers Stoke Hill in what may prove to be a a vital battle to beat the drop.

The hosts started strongly and were 2-0 before Blues' skipper Darren Paul halved the deficit with his third goal of the season.

But this proved to be a false dawn as some sloppy defending presented Stoke with two more goals and a 4-1 lead at the interval.

Ilminster went chasing the game after the turnaround and conceded twice more as a result before Ben Kingman cracked home a late 25-yard consolation.

Blues manager Kenny Timson said: "It was the worst we have played all season in what was a crucial game if we are to avoid relegation."

Ilminster are in Football Express Cup Round One action tomorrow with a trip to face Sampford Peverell (2pm ko).

PERRY STREET LEAGUE
CORONATION CUP SEMI-FINALS
Combe Res 2 South Petherton 0
SOUTH Petherton failed to score for the third time in a row on their travels and were made to pay as Combe Res upset the form book to book a place in the Coronation Cup final thanks to goals from Sam McCafferey and Steve Every.

Shepton Beauchamp 2 Crewkerne 1
COMBE'S opponents in the Final at Millwey Rise on December 27th will be Shepton Beauchamp who squeezed past neighbours Crewkerne in the local-derby at Brimgrove Lane.

An even first-half ended goalless but Crewkerne took the lead on the hour when Mike McCormack netted to complete a fine team move.

But the Tigers concede a free-kick soon after and Shepton skipper Doug Whitfield nipped in front of Jason Manley and volleyed home from close range to equalise.

The winner came in the 87th minute when Pete Field found Dan Smith who weaved his way through the visiting defence before picking out Aaron Sweet who calmly slotted home.

PREMIER
Beaminster 2 W & M Chinnock 4
BEAMINSTER gave title-challenging West & Middle Chinnock a shock with a spirited fightback that just fell short the Memorial Ground.

The Chinns created several good chances in the first-half but only led 1-0 through a 20th minute strike from Liam Samways.

The visitors extended their lead to 3-0 before Beaminster player-manager Dean Newman bagged his first goal of the season with a superb swerving shot from 20 yards.

Things then got even better with Robin Jones making it 3-2 and a point appeared to be on the horizon.

But these hopes were extinguished when a defensive mix-up presented the Chinnocks with a killer fourth goal.

George Trott, Connor Fletcher and Nic Bond netted the visitors other goals.

Perry Street 2 Lyme Regis Reserves 1
LYME Regis Reserves once again failed to capitalise on a bright opening 20 minutes as they went down to a narrow defeat against league leaders Perry Street at Tatworth.

◆ **ON TARGET:** Sam Johnson's goal keeps Perry Street top.

The hosts struck twice to lead at half time. First, a long ball over the top found Brad Cleal who fired past Mark Tozer in the Seasiders' goal.

What proved to be the winner arrived soon afterwards when Sam Johnson's fierce drive deflected in off Wallace Blackmore.

Lyme got back into the game when Cameron Fowler cracked home a dipping drive from all of 30 yards.

But Street saw out the game to consolidate their pole-position.

Round up
BARRINGTON's hopes of a four-pronged trophy assault are still alive after they hammered Forton Rangers 7-0 to clinch their first **Division One Cup** Final appearance for 13 years.

The hosts had the game sewn up at 4-0 at half-time with goals from Andrew Whitefield (2), Ian Masters and James Thompson.

Whitefield completed his fourth hat-trick of the season from the penalty spot after the break and further goals from Tom Perry and Mike Whitefield rounded off a convincing win.

Barrington manager Sid Brown picked out midfielder Rob Luxton as his MoM and also praised the performance of new PSDL referee Chris Emmetson.

Barrington's opponents in the final on January 3rd will be Netherbury who disposed of Winsham Utd 3-0 to keep alive their hopes of lifting the trophy for the first time in 45 years.

There is sure to be new name on the **John Fowler Cup** after away-day semi-final wins for Shepton Beauchamp Reserves and Hawkchurch United.

Shepton flew out of the traps to go 2-0 up inside the opening 90 seconds at Dowlish & Donyatt.

Steve Barrett slotted home from a narrow angle and soon after Alex Pitman netted with a thunderous header.

Jordan Brain made it 3-0 before a great penalty save from Terry Crocker snuffed out a D&D fightback before half-time.

Brain scored his second to put the game beyond doubt despite late consolations from Luke Dopson and Jon Bartlett and a second squandered penalty by the hosts.

Kingsbury will have been slight favourites going into the other semi against Hawkchurch.

Despite the hosts shading the opening 20 minutes the Hawks found themselves 2-0 up courtesy of a brace from Luke Harding. Josh Short weaved his way through to add a third before half-time.

Kingsbury battled and goals from Jake Russell, Ben Norman and Shane Gundry restored parity before Jack Larcombe scored the winner in the 86th minute.

The only game played in **Division One** saw Chard United's sticky run of form continue as they slumped to their fourth defeat in five games.

Kamil Wilk scored United's consolation in a 4-1 reverse at Millwey Rise who returned to the top of the table as a consequence.

Chard have lost the services of 13-goal striker Stuart Packer who is returning to his former club Thorncombe.

In **Division Two** Crewkerne Rangers moved up to third and completed a league double with a 5-2 win over Uplyme at Wadham.

The turning point came at 1-1 when Uplyme defender Jack Chapple was dismissed for a last man foul in the area. Simon Denslow made no mistake with the resulting penalty and it was uphill from there for the 10-man hosts.

Denslow scored another and the other Rangers marksmen were Jack Male, James Martin and Harvey Saunders with his first senior goal.

Uplyme's defeat sees Combe A jump out of the bottom two following their 2-1 win over basement boys Ilminster Town A.

The Saints took the lead when a Wayne Long shot from distance was spilled into his own net by the Blues keeper.

Paul Retter equalised soon after but Long netted the winner.

Kingsbury returned to the top of the **Division Three** table on goal difference after Barrington Res went down to their first defeat of the season – beaten 4-1 at Thorncombe Res.

Early strikes from Liam Whitworth and Karl Smith had the Thorns on top before Jake Woodard pulled one back.

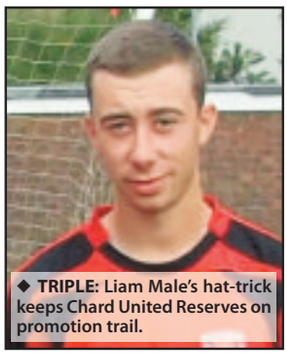
But Former Chard Utd man Ricky Anderson restored the two-goal cushion on his debut and James Johnson added a late fourth for the hosts.

Meanwhile, a first-half hat-trick from Liam Male sees Chard Utd Reserves level on points with the top two with a game in-hand after a 4-1 win at South Petherton Reserves.

Jamie Brown scored the visitors other goal with Dom Muggridge scoring in the 75th minute Pethy.

Over at Jocelyn Park Max Patch gave Chard Rangers 1-0 interval lead over Millwey Rise Reserves.

Kevin Bird made it 2-0 via the underside of the crossbar and John Duffy



◆ **TRIPLE:** Liam Male's hat-trick keeps Chard United Reserves on promotion trail.

added a third to clinch Rangers first win of the season and extend their unbeaten run to three matches - their best for three years.

Down in **Division Four** Merriott Rovers thrashed Chard Rangers Reserves 10-2 for their third double figure score of the season.

Ash Cooper (4), Sam Rowswell (2), Barry Wills (2), Mark Tweedie and Josh Thompson netted for the Rovers with Scott Marshall and Matt Gaylard replying.

Finally, doubles from Ben Dickinson and Josh Betts earned Drimpton Reserves a 4-1 win over Winsham Utd Res whose consolation came from Willis Lawrence.

RESULTS - Saturday, November 29th
CORONATION CUP SF
Combe St Nicholas Res 2 South Petherton 0
Shepton Beauchamp 2 Crewkerne Town 1
DIVISION ONE CUP SF
Barrington 7 Forton Rangers 0
Netherbury 3 Winsham Utd 0
JOHN FOWLER CUP SF
Dowlish & Donyatt 2 Shepton Beau Res 4
Kingsbury Episcopi 3 Hawkchurch Utd 4
PREMIER
Beaminster 2 West & Middle Chinnock 4
Perry Street 2 Lyme Regis Reserves 1
DIVISION ONE
Millwey Rise 4 Chard Utd 1
DIVISION TWO
Combe St Nicholas A 2 Ilminster Town A 1
Crewkerne Rangers 5 Uplyme 2
DIVISION THREE
Chard Rangers 3 Millwey Rise Reserves 0
South Petherton Res 1 Chard Utd Reserves 4
Thorncombe Res 4 Barrington Reserves 1
DIVISION FOUR
Drimpton Reserves 4 Winsham Utd Reserves 1
Merriott Rovers 10 Chard Rangers Reserves 2

FIXTURES – December 6th
DEVON INTERMEDIATE CUP R4 *(2pm)*
Kentisbeare v Millwey Rise
DORSET JUNIOR CUP QF *(1.30pm)*
Drimpton v Maiden Newton & Cattistock
Pymore v Stalbridge
Handley Sports v Netherbury

CHALLENGE CUP R1 *(2pm)*
South Petherton v Perry Street
West & Middle Chinnock v Misterton
EGLON CUP R1
Crewkerne Rangers Res v Chard Rangers Res
Hinton St George v Merriott Rovers

PREMIER *(all league games 2.30pm)*
Crewkerne Town v Combe St Nicholas Res
Lyme Regis Reserves v Shepton Beauchamp
DIVISION ONE
Farway Utd v Winsham Utd
Forton Rangers v Lyme Regis Bantams
Luso-Chard v Barrington
DIVISION TWO
Ilminster Town A v Beaminster Reserves
Uplyme v Combe St Nicholas A
Waytown Hounds v Thorncombe
DIVISION THREE
Barrington Reserves v Chard Rangers
Chard Utd Reserves v Dowlish & Donyatt
Merriott Dynamos v South Petherton Res
Millwey Rise Res v Thorncombe Reserves
Shepton Beauchamp Res v Hawkchurch Utd
DIVISION FOUR
Combe St Nicholas B v Uplyme Reserves
Winsham Utd Reserves v Farway Utd Reserves

As they stand

Toolstation Div 1	Pld	+/-	Pts
Barnstaple Town	19	63	48
Wincanton Town	22	20	45
Cribbs	21	19	45
Welton Rovers	20	14	45
Ashton & Backwell	23	16	43
Corsham Town	19	18	34
Almondsbury UWE	19	1	33
Cheddar	20	2	30
Hengrove Athletic	21	-3	30
CHARD TOWN	***22***	***-5***	***29***
Oldland Abbotonians	20	-10	28
Devizes Town	22	1	26
Radstock Town	21	-1	26
Calne Town	23	-8	26
Wells City	24	-4	24
Chippenham Park	18	4	23
Keynsham Town	23	-28	23
Warminster Town	20	-7	21
Wellington	18	-4	19
Westbury United	23	-30	18
Roman Glass St G	19	-26	15
Portishead Town	21	-31	9

Somerset Premier	Pld	+/-	Pts
Shirehampton	17	30	46
Clutton	16	9	31
Bishops Lydeard	17	-2	29
Frome Collegians	17	13	28
Watchet Town	16	13	28
Nailsea Utd	16	11	25
Cutters Friday	14	3	25
Bridgwater Town Res	16	3	24
Fry Club	14	4	23
Minehead	16	-8	20
Wrington Redhill	13	-2	19
Berrow	17	-5	19
Yatton Athletic	15	-14	19
ILMINSTER TOWN	***14***	***-15***	***15***
Odd Down Res	14	-6	12
Broad Plain House	15	-7	10
Stockwood Green	15	-14	10
Nailsea Town	13	-9	8

Somerset Div 2W	Pld	+/-	Pts
Winscombe	9	36	24
Worle	11	21	23
COMBE St NICHOLAS	***9***	***21***	***21***
Kewstoke Lions	10	15	21
Uphill Castle	9	6	19
Cheddar Res	11	5	18
Highbridge Town	10	13	13
Taunton Utd 1610	9	3	13
Clevedon Utd Res	11	-3	12
Nailsea Utd Res	8	-6	10
Nailsea Town Res	10	-6	9
Churchill Club 70	9	-13	7
Burnham Utd Res	11	-40	6
Weston St Johns Res	10	-52	1

D & E Premier	Pld	+/-	Pts
Tiverton Town Res	11	40	30
Heavitree Utd	12	20	28
Feniton	8	21	19
Hatherleigh Town	9	12	19
Sidbury Utd	8	15	18
Elmore	9	3	16
Topsham Town	9	21	15
CHARD TOWN RES	***11***	***6***	***15***
Newtown	13	-9	15
Beer Albion	10	-9	14
Thorverton	8	12	13
Exeter University Res	10	-1	11
Bow AAC	10	-9	8
Willand Rovers Res	12	-11	8
Seaton Town	11	-23	6
Budleigh Salterton Res	14	-88	1

D & E Division 5	Pld	+/-	Pts
Sandford	10	15	23
Sampford Peverell	11	18	22
Uplowman Athletic	10	14	22
Feniton Res	11	11	21
Otterton	12	2	19
Fluxton	7	17	16
Hatherleigh Town Res	11	-18	12
Honiton Town Res	8	7	11
Priory	6	2	10
Starcross Generals	9	-7	10
Winkleigh	8	-2	9
Halwill Res	9	-10	9
Stoke Hill	11	-19	8
ILMINSTER RES	13	-30	6

PSDL Premier	Pld	+/-	Pts
Perry Street	11	22	25
West & Middle Chinnock	8	27	21
Shepton Beauchamp	9	24	21
South Petherton	9	23	16
Crewkerne Town	5	20	15
Beaminster	10	17	12
Combe St Nicholas Res	8	20	9
Lyme Regis Res	10	-8	9
Misterton	9	-82	3
Ilminster Town Colts	9	-63	0

Division One	Pld	+/-	Pts
Millwey Rise	9	18	22
Barrington	7	29	21
Winsham Utd	10	11	21
Forton Rangers	10	9	17
Netherbury	8	2	14
Chard Utd	11	1	13
Lyme Regis Bantams	9	-6	11
Luso-Chard	10	-17	9
Pymore	9	-17	9
Farway Utd	7	-30	0

Division Two	Pld	+/-	Pts
Drimpton	9	32	25
Thorncombe	9	10	18
Crewkerne Rangers	10	-1	17
Crewkerne Town Res	7	12	16
Waytown Hounds	10	7	16
Charmouth	11	-8	10
Combe St Nicholas A	9	-9	9
Beaminster Res	10	-2	8
Uplyme	7	-1	7
Ilminster Town A	8	-40	-2*

Division Three	Pld	+/-	Pts
Kingsbury Episcopi	9	13	18
Barrington Res	9	13	18
Chard Utd Res	8	8	17
Thorncombe Res	9	0	13
Hawkchurch Utd	7	10	12
Dowlish & Donyatt	8	3	12
South Petherton Res	10	-1	11
Shepton Beau Res	7	-11	7
Merriott Dynamos	7	-6	6
Chard Rangers	7	-9	6
Millwey Rise Res	9	-17	6

Division Four	Pld	+/-	Pts
Merriott Rovers	8	46	24
Combe St Nicholas B	8	30	22
Uplyme Res	8	7	15
Winsham Utd Res	11	-5	15
Crewkerne Rangers Res	9	-3	12
Hinton St George	7	-1	10
Drimpton Res	10	-9	9
Chard Rangers Res	9	-15	9
Farway Utd Res	6	-10	6
Chard Utd All Stars	10	-40	4

*= points deducted

hockey chard

Debatable late penalty costs Chard

East Devon 3 Chard 2

CHARD arrived at East Devon hoping to continue their four-game unbeaten run.

But they didn't make the best of starts and East Devon enjoyed a lot of early possession, however they eventually settled and Brendan Viggers threaded a great ball through for Matt Sheahan to get onto behind the defence and cross for Bertie Squires to calmly sweep into the goal to open the scoring.

The hosts responded with a scrappy goal just before half-time to level things up.

Chard upped their effort after the turnaround and were soon awarded a short corner which Brendan Viggers converted with a powerful shot into the bottom corner.

As the half wore on the game became heated and a lot more physical with the umpires having to speak to the captains to try and gain some control.

East Devon then came out on top in a goal line scramble in at the near post to draw the scores level.

The heated nature of the game continued to escalate and when, not for the first time, a sliding East Devon defender bundled into Viggers East Devon were reduced to ten.

Chard put a lot of effort in to make the most of the extra man with some good efforts from Murphy and Squire and a goal disallowed from Sheahan but to no avail.

In the dying minutes the hosts broke through and, after a foul from the chard defence in the D, they were awarded a questionable penalty flick and skipper Crease was sent to the sin-bin. East Devon gratefully converted their flick.

Not a great afternoon for Chard who are at home against Taunton Civil Service tomorrow and will hope to get back to winning ways.

Chard A Ashmoor A

ASHMOOR had scored 20 goals in their previous fixture and Chard had hit 24 in their last two, so a goalless draw seemed unlikely.

In a fiercely contested match, it was the visitors who blinked and Chard ultimately ran out convincing winners, leapfrogging their opponents and moving up to third place in South East Division Two. Their goal difference of plus 35 is the second best in the division.

Chard were glad of their 14 man squad as Danny Grabham and Jason Goddard both picked up first half injuries and both needed time off the pitch, Goddard failing to return for the second half.

However, it was the leg injury to Ashmoor defender Jason Fee which may have had most impact upon the game. With no substitutes, he had to remain on the pitch for the rest of the game with increasingly restricted movement.

The game was goalless up to that point but Chard then sprinted to a three-goal half-time lead.

Captain Gareth Eggle fired home the first after evading the attention of two defenders.

Dan Stone added the second and Kyle Anderson scored his first goal for the team, being in the right place to finish off a flowing attack from the right.

Chard started the second half in confident mood but their impetus was disrupted firstly by conceding a scrappy goal against the run of play and then by Steve Mahoney's ten-minute sin-binning midway through the half.

Despite this, the ten men rallied with Man-of-the-Match Stone winning a one-on-one breakaway race with an Ashmoor defender before riffling the ball past keeper Sean Clarke for Chard's fourth.

Although the game revolved around a keenly contested midfield, the visitors had few clear cut chances and Chard could have won by a more comfortable margin but for Clarke saving a shot from Eggle, a goalbound penalty corner flick from Max Beale and another effort from Trevor Goss.

Stone had a glorious chance for his hat-trick from close range but hit an air shot rather than the ball.

Ashmoor are a blend of youthful talent built around a core of more experienced players so it was pleasing that Chard displayed the stamina to compete and press for the full 70 minutes, denying the visitors any chance to impose themselves.

Thanks to umpires: Jim Sainsbury and Alan Cheffey.

Squad: Berge Balian, Danny Grabham, Max Beale, Paul Tratt, Steve Mahoney, Kyle Anderson, James Spurdle, Gareth Eggle (capt), Jason Goddard, Harvey Dening, Harry Felgate, Dan Stone (vice), Adam Veitch, Trevor Goss.

Chard travelled to

Other scores;

Taunton Vale 4ths 6 Chard Ladies 2.

Tomorrow's fixtures;

Chard v Taunton CS A, Bridgwater C v Chard A, Ashmoor C v Chard B, Chard Ladies - no game.

South-East 1	P	GD	Pts
Taunton Vale B	10	47	30
Yeovil & Sher A	10	12	22
CHARD	10	17	19
Taunton CS	10	16	19
Minehead A	10	4	19
Taunton Vale C	10	7	18
Isca D	10	0	15
ECV Hornets B	10	-14	12
East Devon B	10	-16	9
Yeovil & Sher B	10	-7	7
Torbay A	10	-38	1
Sidmth & Ott B	10	-28	0*

South-East 2	P	GD	Pts
Bridgwater B	8	38	24
West Dorset A	8	5	18
CHARD A	8	35	15
North Devon A	8	14	15
Ashmoor A	8	25	13
Sidmth & Ott C	8	-10	12
Bridgwater C	8	11	10
Taunton Vale D	8	-32	4
Sidmth & Ott D	8	-58	4
Minehead B	8	-28	3

South-East 3	P	GD	Pts
CHARD B	7	21	21
Taunton CS A	8	32	18
East Devon C	7	27	18
Bridgwater D	8	-4	11
Isca E	7	8	10
Yeovil & Sher C	7	14	7
Ashmoor C	7	-42	6
ECV Hornets C	8	-28	4
East Devon D	7	-28	1

(=pts deducted)*

Sedgemoor 1	P	GD	Pts
Shepton Mallet	9	67	27
Weston-SM	9	19	24
Minehead	9	20	21
Taunton Vale 3	9	26	18
Taunton Vale 4	9	5	11
CHARD LADIES	9	-28	10
Winscombe 2	9	-28	6
Bridgwater 2	9	-21	5
Taw Valley 2	9	-20	3
White Eagles 2	9	-32	3

football extra

Merriott Flyers U13s

■ **FLYING HIGH: A 12-0 win at Wincanton Town last Sunday sees Merriott Flyers in third spot in the Yeovil & District Youth League Division Two. The team is pictured above with representatives of new sponsors Becky's Barbers of Crewkerne.**

horse racing bob buckler stable

Buckler proves a change really is as good as a rest

IT looks like trainer Bob Buckler's move to Spaxton is paying off for his horses as the former Crewkerne trainer recorded his fourth winner in six starts *writes Stuart Broom*.

Having spent the summer refurbishing the stables at his farm below the Quantocks, apart from a poor run from ***Somerset Lias*** that Buckler put down to his misjudgement over the level of training required because of new facilities around the area, his horses have shown outstanding form.

The **Happy Warrior** followed up his second place at Taunton with a solid win at Ffos Las in a 3 mile chase where despite a mistake four out, he battled on to hold on by a head over the only other finisher River D'or.

However, ***Ballyegan*** appears to have been revitalised following his move.

Having bounced back to form by winning at Taunton three weeks ago by returning to the Somerset track two weeks later to win the Xmas Fair 11th December Handicap Chase over 2m7f.

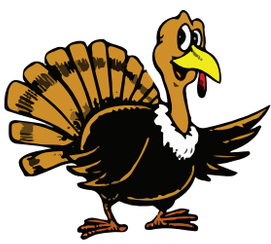
Although he didn't jump fluently, losing ground at each jump, he had to work to regain the ground between jumps, but two lengths down after the last he battled to wear down leader Kilcascan and snatch the race by a head.

Buckler has attributed the change in form to their new surroundings where he believes his horses have both physically and mentally improved as a result.

"I've never been on such a good run before in my life; perhaps I should retire now whilst I'm ahead."

Say My Name who made a reasonable debut in his bumper back in October runs at Exeter where Buckler expects a much better performance.

"He has come on a lot since that race and has improved a lot both physically and mentally improved and I am expecting a much better run this time."



Toolstation offer Armed Forces free admission

THE Toolstation Western Football League is to offer free admission for all serving HM Forces to all league matches.

A statement issued by the league that includes teams from Bristol, Dorset, Devon, Gloucestershire, Somerset and Wiltshire it states: "The current men and women of Her Majesty's Armed Forces are doing such an exceptional job both at home and abroad during these difficult times and we would like to show our support and appreciation.

"The League is delighted to announce that all current serving members of Her Majesty's Armed Forces will be able to gain free admission to all our club's league and Les Phillips Cup matches on production of a valid identity card at the turnstile."

For a list of clubs see www.toolstationleague.com or contact the general secretary Mark Edmonds on 01980 842153 or e-mail: mark.edmonds@toolstationleague.com

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darts chard & district

Premier Division	P	+/-	Pts
High 4 & a Half	6	64	87
Rejects Return	6	46	78
Country Classics	6	36	75
BDBs	6	29	74
Phoenix Clubbers	6	-8	54
Crusaders	6	-26	43
Hobnobs	6	-26	43
Pig Jockeys	6	-43	36
Happy Sharks	5	-29	34
Phoenix Poppes	5	-43	26

Division One	P	+/-	Pts
Hopefuls	6	13	67
Pop Darts	6	12	65
We Can Do This	6	2	61
Down's	5	19	60
Pirates	4	17	47
Stumpy's Gang	5	-1	47
PAs	5	-5	47
Cult of Personality	4	-3	38
Winning Team	5	-54	20

Division Two	P	+/-	Pts
Two Minute Crew	6	35	75
HRT	6	35	73
Madhouse Crew	6	24	70
Clownin' Around	6	8	63
Okey Doaks	5	16	58
Red Devils	6	-23	49
Rare Breeds	5	-6	44
Duck Fs	5	-19	40
Happy Days	5	-25	36
Bs Knees	6	-45	35

Stat leaders

180s; *Premier* - Paul Lawrence (3), Leighton Cox, Shaun Cable & Louis Wells-Burr (all 2), x16 players (1).

Division One; Mike Best, Paul Down & Paul Newton (all x1).

Division Two; Alan Sprake (2), Dave Bealey, Steve Major, Gill McQueen, Tracey Scriven and Julie White (all 1).

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